



Baker to solve teachers' pay dispute by law

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, will today publish a Bill giving him sweeping powers to determine teachers' pay and conditions of service. It will consist of only seven clauses and will be rushed through Parliament with the aim of its receiving Royal Assent by February.

If the present dispute has not been resolved then by agreement, as Mr Baker hopes, the new legislation will be used to impose a settlement retrospectively.

Ministers were saying last night that they recognized they were taking a gamble. But they judge that the political kudos of being seen to act decisively to break a logjam will outweigh any damage the unions can inflict by disrupting classes.

Mr Baker's announcement came in a statement to MPs calculated to avoid inflaming passions over the current impasse over staff-room pay and duties.

He said the Bill would repeal the Remuneration of Teachers Act 1965 and replace the Burnham pay bargaining machinery with an interim advisory committee to guide him on all aspects of salaries and contracts.

The committee would be appointed by the Secretary of State and take evidence from the unions and employers. It would then give advice which Mr Baker would discuss with the two sides before coming to a decision and laying it before MPs.

The present Burnham system effectively binds the Secretary of State to accepting its recommendations on pay alone once a deal has been struck.

But, it was later made clear, the final word over settlements would lie with him and would be enacted in the form of a Bill.

Parliament 4

of recommendations to the Commons in the form of statutory instruments.

In an interview on BBC Radio 4, Mr Baker confirmed he would have power to impose a settlement.

Mr Baker's conciliatory line in which he spoke of "some useful progress" in the talks between the teachers and their local authority employers, enshrined in the Acas document agreed by a majority on both sides last Friday, largely overshadowed the full import of the fundamental change he was announcing.

He carefully avoided any reference to imposing a settlement in the current dispute, though he did emphasize he was not willing to allow the present "highly unsatisfactory situation to continue" for the sake of the nation's children.

Asked by Mr Ian Wigglesworth, Social Democrat MP for Stockton South, whether he was going to continue to exert a change of mind, negotiate a settlement or impose one, he said: "We shall have to wait to see what the particular unions will say."

Mr Giles Radice, the Labour education spokesman, began a lengthy bout of questioning by welcoming the fact that despite press reports there was no mention of imposition.

But he later wrung from Mr Baker the admission that the new Bill would give him such a power.

Mr Baker repeated his view there is a "huge gap" between his proposals and those in the Acas document.

The latter would exceed his £600 million cost ceiling over 15 months by £85 million and did not offer a "sensible" career structure rewarding good classroom teaching and extra responsibility.

He said he wanted 140,000 "incentive posts" in the 400,000-member profession. Currently, there were 105,000 and the Acas proposals would cut that to 80,000. This was a "fundamental point of principle".

Mr Radice urged Mr Baker to accept the Acas deal. Classroom peace would be better secured by embracing a settlement that is supported by two thirds of the profession, he said.

Mr Baker, pressed at a press conference on how long he was prepared to wait for the employers and the unions, said: "I would have thought about the early part of next year." (Our Education Reporter writes)

He emphasized that the philosophical differences on the structure of the teaching profession were "very substantial", but reiterated that he was prepared to listen to further ideas from Mr John Pearman, the employers' leader.

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Rothschild stays silent on book involvement



Lord Rothschild, pictured yesterday, still refused to talk about suggestions that he master-minded publication of a spy book. Details, page 2. Photograph by John Gray

Thatcher firm in face of spy case grilling

● The Prime Minister was grilled in the Commons over the role of the Attorney-General in the MI5 affair

● A photographer was injured and his camera smashed as he attempted to photograph Lord Rothschild (Page 2)

● The Australian judge, Mr Justice Powell, made clear he was losing patience with the British Government (Page 10)

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government ran into deeper trouble over the spy book affair yesterday as the Prime Minister faced a sustained grilling in the Commons over the role of the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, and in Sydney the judge in the court case ordered Britain to hand over secret documents about MI5 (Page 10)

lia to try to suppress Mr Wright's book, had both been taken personally by the Attorney-General.

Using the formula she has employed before Mrs Thatcher said it would be inappropriate to comment on matters concerning the Wright case and she would not comment on security matters.

But loudly cheered on by his backbenchers Mr Kinnoch said that questions about decisions and responsibilities inside the Government had no implications for national security. "Will you give a straight answer to a straight question?" he asked. "Did the Attorney-General take either or both of those decisions personally? Has the Attorney-General been a fool or a fall guy?"

With a growing number of Conservative MPs wishing that the Government would drop the case, in which it is trying to stop publication of the Peter Wright memoirs, Mrs Thatcher had perhaps her most uncomfortable Commons session since the Westland affair as she refused, for security reasons, to answer questions.

She was provoked into an angry defence of the Attorney-General, the main target of the Opposition's intensified attack and at one point challenged the Opposition Leader, Mr Kinnoch, to table a motion of censure.

Meanwhile it was announced that the Commons would debate the security services next Wednesday.

The Government had earlier been embarrassed by Mr Justice Powell's criticism that the conduct of the case could cause grave injustice and that it appeared as though the Government was not prepared to accept any decision that was not in its favour.

In the Commons Mr Kinnoch repeatedly asked the Prime Minister whether the decision not to impede the publication in 1981 of Chapman Pincher's book on MI5, on which Mr Wright collaborated, and the decision to send Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, to Australia to try to suppress Mr Wright's book, had both been taken personally by the Attorney-General.

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Judge loses patience 10

Amid uproar Mrs Thatcher dismissed the question as "totally unworthy" and, when Mr Kinnoch persisted, said that such decisions were decisions of the Government and not of the Attorney-General.

With the Opposition benches in full cry the Prime Minister refused to answer a Labour MP who asked whether in 1980 or 1981 she had discussed the contents of Mr Wright's book with Lord Rothschild.

The concern on the Tory side was reflected by Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP for Thanet South, who said in view of the difficulties being encountered by the judge's ruling in Australia she should consider a moratorium "on all legal activities referring to historic matters concerned with the late Sir Roger Hollis".

Colonel North is reported to be depressed and extremely angry at the way he has been treated. His friends said he was not officially informed of his sacking until President Reagan announced it during a televised press conference. Mr Reagan then telephoned him and thanked him for his past service to the Administration. The colonel is said to be concerned about his future without a military pension.

Mr Reagan also telephoned Mrs Peggy Say, the sister of Terry Anderson, one of the hostages in Beirut, telling her that Administration officials would continue "to do everything they can" to free her brother.

The latest twist over the destroyed evidence has further heightened comparisons with Watergate. Sceptical congressmen and media commentators are again asking the famous Watergate question: What did the President know, and when did he know it?

The results of an ABC Television poll released on Wednesday showed that 62 per cent of respondents thought Mr Reagan had conspired.

Continued on page 20, col 1

North Sea oil slick discovered

Emergency services were on standby last night as three oilfields were shut down after an oil slick, five miles long, was spotted in the North Sea.

It was feared that the oil was coming from a leak in the 130-mile submarine pipeline which runs to the Occidental terminal on the Orkney Island of Flotta.

The terminal, which was opened 10 years ago, has handled more than a billion barrels of oil - nearly 15 per cent of Britain's North Sea output.

Yesterday, however, production was stopped at all three platforms which serve the terminal - Piper, Claymore and Tartan.

Last night the diving support ship *Deep Water 1* was on its way to the area, about 100 miles east of the Scottish mainland, to try to locate the problem.

The oil slick was first spotted by fishermen who reported it to Pentland Coastguards at Kirkwall.

An Occidental spokesman said there was "evidence of oil in an area roughly five miles by two miles in the vicinity of our pipeline".

The spokesman said that depressing of the pipeline had continued all day in an attempt to locate the source of the leak.

The operation was being monitored by coastguards in Aberdeen.

Key figure 'shreds' arms documents

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The repercussions of the Iranian arms scandal continued to grow yesterday, with only a brief respite for Thanksgiving. The Justice Department called in the Federal Bureau of Investigation amid reports that a key figure had shredded documents that might have implicated top Administration officials.

The Los Angeles Times reported that Colonel Oliver North, the dismissed military advisor at the National Security Council, destroyed a number of documents from NSC files last weekend, either before or after being interviewed by Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General.

It was reported that Colonel North entered his "secure office" next to the White House and shredded the documents at least 36 hours before White House security officials were sent to change the combinations on the locks to the office and safe.

The FBI has been brought in to investigate this and other aspects of the scandal. Its findings could lead to the convening of a grand jury to look at evidence for criminal prosecution.

Continued on page 20, col 1

US Salt 2 breach enrages Kremlin

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin said yesterday that the Soviet Defence Ministry was now reviewing concrete measures to be taken in response to the US breach of the unratified Salt-2 treaty.

The warning that the Soviet Union would itself abandon the restraints imposed by the 1979 treaty in direct response to the American move was accompanied by an angry announcement that Washington's decision would have negative repercussions on the disarmament talks due to resume in Geneva next week.

The swift Soviet reaction, announced at a special news conference called here by the Foreign Ministry, followed the statement in the US that the 131st B-52 bomber equipped with cruise missiles will be dispatched today for operations at a Texas air base, topping the ceiling of 1,320 for missile warheads and cruise-carrying bombers laid down in the treaty.

Mr Boris Pyadyshev, the Kremlin spokesman, said that if the US move went ahead "the Soviet Union will consider itself free of the corresponding commitments to the treaty and will take the necessary practical measures not to allow the undermining of the military-strategic parity". Mr Pyadyshev stressed that the Soviet side would not have to hurry with its reaction, because the immediate threat to its security was not "imminent" but he added: "The refusal of the Reagan Administration to abide by the Salt-2 treaty cannot but influence most negatively the atmosphere in which Soviet-American contacts take place in the sphere of arms and forces reductions."

Questioned by *The Times* about the concrete steps in terms of new military hardware that the Soviet Union would be introducing, he said: "The introduction of a new system of weapons will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the military-strategic parity."

Continued on page 20, col 1

Soviet doctors to join Aids research

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

British and Soviet doctors are to collaborate on research into the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids) and other public health issues in a return to "medical détente" between the two countries.

Soviet virologists will work with British specialists on studies of Aids after talks in London this week between a delegation of Russian doctors and the Department of Health and Social Security.

The inclusion of Aids research on the agenda suggests that Soviet health authorities are more concerned about the impact of the disease in Russia than recent official statements have indicated.

The meetings mark the end of Britain's suspension four years ago of formal medical collaboration with the Soviet Union after the invasion of Afghanistan and the suspension of the Solidarity movement in Poland.

Since the suspension of the agreement, signed in 1975 to "develop and widen co-operation on important problems of medicine and public health", doctors in both countries, as well as politicians, health officials and groups such as the UK-USSR Medical Exchange Programme, have been striving for its revival.

Unofficial visits by parties of doctors and medical students have taken place.

The moves come after Foreign Office approval of renewed "cost-effective" co-operation. Increased collaboration in cardiology, ophthalmology, accident and emergency medical care and oncology, as well as Aids research, is likely to be officially agreed today.

Soviet authorities have frequently denied that Aids is a serious threat in their country. Professor Viktor Zhdanov, director of the Ivanovsk Institute of Virology, told a conference on Aids in Paris last June that only 12 cases had been identified, of which seven came from Africa.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, will discuss the Aids epidemic with the World Health Organization in Geneva today.

The Prince of Wales yesterday lent his wholehearted support to community architecture as he launched the Inner City Trust (Christopher Warman writes).

It is an organization set up to fund self-help community projects in deprived inner-city areas.

The Trust, through its fundraising arm Inner City Aid, based on Bob Geldof's Band Aid, and using staff from that campaign, aims to raise tens of millions of pounds to fund housing schemes.

The intention is to provide money to grass roots organizations, to fund projects from the "bottom up", from among the local people, rather than use the "top down" approach.

The prince told the *Building Communities* conference at the Astoria Theatre, in London, the first international conference on community architecture, planning and design, that he supported the "bottom up" approach to building because he believed that every individual had a contribution to make. "I'm here because frankly, what is known as the community architecture approach makes a great deal of sense to me."

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Prince's campaign, page 3

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Prince's campaign, page 3

Labour's secret war on 'loony right'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Labour is secretly preparing a new year counter-offensive to the Government's attacks on "loony-left" councils. It will seek to expose unsavoury business, financial and political activities within the Conservative Party.

The Shadow Cabinet endorsed the plan at a meeting earlier this month, and key frontbench spokesmen have since been advised to start gathering and collating evidence.

Mr Robin Cook, a trade and industry spokesman, is believed to be concentrating on the City; Mr Jack Straw, an environment spokesman, on Tory-run local authorities and Mr George Foulkes, a foreign affairs spokesman, on right-wing organizations like the now-defunct Federation of Conservative Students. Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Shadow Home Secretary, is also understood to be involved.

Sources stressed yesterday that attacks on the personal lives of Conservative Party members had been ruled out, but not disclosure of their business or political connections or financial interests.

Labour believes it can find plenty of evidence of Tory maladministration on local authorities.

The FCS may have been disbanded, but its more extreme members are still around, and attention will be paid to the backgrounds of MPs' research assistants.

Also likely to be investigated are some of the more shadowy groups loosely linked to the party.

It is believed that two recent Granada Television *World In Action* programmes concerning the Anglo-Asian businessman Mr Abdul Shamji, whose huge business empire collapsed with debts of nearly £40 million following the Johnson Matthey banking scandal, are also being closely studied.

Mrs Thatcher herself was cited as having visited Mr Shamji's house for a Conservative fund-raising dinner and having written a letter praising his achievements, while Mr Norman Tebbit was named as a friend. Mr Andrew Rowe, a Conservative MP, became "a paid consultant for Mr Shamji, promoting his interests with Government departments", whilst Mr Michael Cyril, another Tory MP, "lent his support to Shamji in his dealings with a government department."

Mr Shamji was also a generous contributor to Tory funds.

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Continued on page 20, col 1

Shake-up of rates starts in Scotland

By Robin Oakley

The long-awaited shake-up of Britain's rating system, first promised by the Conservatives in 1974, began yesterday with the publication of a bill to reform the system in Scotland.

Domestic rates will be phased out there from April 1987 to be replaced by a system of community charges paid by all adults. Had the system operated this year the charge would have been between £150 and £260 per person.

The new system, page 2

Tomorrow

A clown like Alex



Alex Higgins, snooker's wayward superstar, teeters on the edge of a life ban. What makes him tick? And what makes him go cuckoo? Gordon Burn gets to the heart of a flawed genius

Portfolio Gold

● The Times Portfolio Gold competition was cancelled yesterday because of some incorrect Stock Exchange prices supplied to newspapers throughout the country. Today's competition prize will therefore be £8,000, double the usual daily amount.

● Portfolio list, page 25; how to play, information service, 20.

TIMES BUSINESS

Khoos resigns

Tan Sri Khoos Teck Post, the Singapore businessman whose family is involved in problems with the National Bank of Brunei, yesterday resigned as director of Standard Chartered Bank. Page 21

TIMES SPORT

Higgins back

Alex Higgins was given a cooling-off period when he returned to action in the Tennents UK professional snooker championship at Preston two days after an incident in which he allegedly assaulted an official. Page 36

Howe decision

The Football Association has rejected a request by Bobby Robson, the England manager, to appoint Don Howe as his full-time assistant. Page 36

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NEWS SUMMARY

Appraisal scheme gets under way

Six local education authorities have been named by the Government to take part in a pilot project for appraising the performance of teachers.

US Chinook ruling

A court order against the American Boeing Corporation has been won by lawyers seeking £14 million damages for the widow of one of the 45 Slickland helicopter crash victims.

Rival to Labour

The Labour Party would lose a third of its support in the mining constituency of Mansfield if the Union of Democratic Mineworkers put up a rival candidate at the next General Election.

Secrets charge

A journalist accused of an offence under the Official Secrets Act was yesterday committed for trial at Croydon Crown Court by Croydon magistrates.

Car chase death

A policewoman died yesterday after the car she was driving crashed while she was chasing a private motorist "on a hunch".



BR sues News group

British Rail yesterday served a writ on News International, alleging that the company had cost it business worth £30 million through breach of contract.

Drop McGoldrick case, says Kinnock

By Philip Webster Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock and other members of the Shadow Cabinet yesterday criticised Brent council over its decision to proceed with a disciplinary hearing against Miss Maureen McGoldrick, and made a last appeal for the issue to be dropped.

The overall student attendance record was described as "poor" and the report takes many of the 160 staff to task for not giving sufficient thought to the choice of teaching methods, although those who teach for the pursuing and social care certificates were singled out for praise.

First steps towards the abolition of domestic rate

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government took the first step yesterday towards the abolition of domestic rates in Britain, with the publication of a Bill to substitute the payment of a community charge of between £150 and £260, by everyone over 18, in Scotland.



Bank staff stop Mr O'Neill photographing Lord Rothschild (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater)

Rothschild staff in scuffle

By Robin Young

A photographer was injured and his camera smashed yesterday as he was attempting to photograph Lord Rothschild. Mr David O'Neill, a staff photographer working for The Mail on Sunday, was set upon by several employees of N M Rothschild and Co as Lord Rothschild arrived at the office.

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Magazines seized in porn alert

By Stewart Tendler Crime Reporter

One of Britain's largest police operations against pornography was launched yesterday when Scotland Yard's Obscene Publications Branch seized four lorry-loads of magazines and video cassettes from a warehouse in Stratford, east London.

Defence blueprint on rapid-response forces

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent

A major report which will provide the blueprint for future rapid strategic deployment of British Armed Forces outside the Nato area is to be prepared for defence chiefs. It will be drawn up from the experiences in the joint UK-Omani military exercise, now coming to a close, which has been testing operational concepts developed from the Falklands campaign.

Snails in biological foul-up

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

The plight of the female dog whelk or marine snail is to be raised in the Commons today. Mr Anthony Steen, Conservative MP for South Hams, is to table a written question alerting ministers to the fact that all along the coast of the South-west these creatures are growing male sex organs.

1982 when they discovered it was destroying marine life, and developed a non-toxic, copper-based anti-fouling paint. In Britain, from January 1 next the TBT content of the copolymer content must be reduced from 7.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent. Since last January the Department of the Environment has also been monitoring the results of earlier legislation restricting the use.

'Wanted' man flies back to Belfast

An Ulster man wanted by the US authorities for alleged gun-running to Syria, Iran and other prohibited countries and for whose arrest a warrant was issued by a Washington DC court on Wednesday, flew back into Belfast's Aldergrove Airport yesterday afternoon after a meeting with peers at the House of Lords.

Mr Thomas O'Brien, aged 45, a unionist activist and chairman of the Bangor branch of the small, hardline Progressive Unionist Party, said he would consult lawyers about the "titanic" allegations being made against him by the US authorities.

Applying for an arrest warrant on Wednesday a US customs representative told a Washington court that Mr O'Brien was wanted together with two Americans and an Englishman named as Mr Eric Magee for conspiring to supply arms, ammunition and high tech navigation systems to several countries to which such exports are banned, in contravention of the US Arms Export Control Act.

The four were alleged to have had contacts with undercover Customs investigators between last March and this month. Mr O'Brien was being sought and was thought to be in the United States, the court is reported to have been told.

Mr O'Brien flew openly into Aldergrove airport yesterday, unimpeded either at Heathrow or on arrival and professed himself to be mystified by the charges being made against him.

"I have not been out of Great Britain in the last quarter. I was in London on business, with a group of other people to meet some lords at the House of Lords. I met them but I cut the visit short - I was supposed to stay for further meetings this evening. I've returned home to find out what is going on. I'm not in hiding from anyone."

He has been a member of the Progressive Unionist Party for more than four years and chairs his local branch in Bangor, where he is unemployed and lives with his wife and two children. Last year he stood, unsuccessfully, in the local authority elections, polling only 267 first-preference votes.

Anti-pact campaign in chaos

The Ulster "loyalist" campaign of opposition to the Anglo-Irish agreement was in chaos yesterday.

Hopes of bringing about the collapse of local government were stymied in a revolt by Official Unionists who refused to vacate their council seats - leaving the future of Mr James Molyneux, the party leader, who called for the resignations, dangerously exposed.

Now, rival Democratic Unionist Party hardliners, infuriated by the rebellion, are likely to push for an all-out public civil disobedience campaign to revive the intensity of the protests.

Mr Molyneux's position as leader of the province's largest political party did not appear under any immediate threat. But the split within his ranks will make it increasingly difficult for him to keep pace with the anti-agreement campaign being forced by senior officials in the Rev Ian Paisley's DUP.

The two leaders met yesterday to discuss their next move. But the uneasy alliance between the two parties who agreed on a joint pact of opposition is as close as it has ever been to breaking up.

The Official Unionists voted 82-44 against vacating the seats. They were the mainly Roman Catholic SDLP and Sinn Fein would take over most of Ulster's 26 district councils, many of which are continuing to adjourn all business.

But the emphatic rejection of Mr Molyneux's resignation call, at a special meeting in Belfast, was a setback to the party leader's authority. He said: "I am absolutely determined, come what may, and no matter what kind of forces are mounted against me, to carry through that policy in conjunction with all other pro-union people who will not tolerate consent to the agreement."

"As far as my position is concerned, I was elected by the 800 members of the Ulster Unionist Council seven years ago. They are the only people who can decide to remove me. If they say it is time to go I will go quietly, but not until then and not at the behest of any element within the party other than the unionist council."

During the 1980s, the following countries have been the most common destinations for gun-running: Syria, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Cuba, North Korea, South Korea, and the Philippines.

Vertical advertisements on the right edge of the page, including 'Olds', 'Merdose', 'Jaffe says P', 'Princess's', and 'OR mail'.

Baker throws out parts of schools pay settlement

EDUCATION

There had been useful progress on teachers' pay, but the Government was unable to accept important parts of last Friday's deal between the local authorities and the teachers' unions, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, told the Commons.

He said that while the Government will abolish the Burnham Committee and bring in an advisory committee on pay will be introduced tomorrow.

In his statement, Mr Baker said: Progress has been made, but Friday's document contains some features which the Government cannot accept.

First, we cannot accept the excess costs of the proposals on pay. The phasing and distribution mean that the proposals cost an extra £15 million for three months of January to March next year and another £70 million for the next financial year. The Government's offer, worth £60 million, is for 16.4 per cent to be implemented in full by next October. That offer stands. It is very generous by any standard.

Second, I must leave the House in no doubt about the unacceptability of the proposed pay structure. We have not been given a sensible structure for the profession. Instead we have a reiteration of earlier ideas with higher figures and only minimal movement towards the Government's criteria.

The Government wants a pay structure for the teaching profession which will provide more incentives for teachers and a considerable professional support for our view. These posts will reward good classroom teaching and extra responsibility.

They will also pay for skills in short supply and attract good teachers to demanding posts which might otherwise be difficult to fill, for example, in inner city schools.

My proposals are based on 140,000 incentive posts in a profession of 400,000 teachers. Today there are 105,000 such posts. Friday's proposals would provide only 80,000. That would mean that 25,000 teachers who are now on higher scales would not be promoted posts come September.

My aim is that half of the profession should hold promoted posts or be heads or deputies. There is that only about one third should hold such posts. This is a huge gap and a fundamental point of principle. We must enhance the career prospects of good teachers and give management the flexibility it needs to improve the quality of education in our schools.

Lastly, there is the question of future negotiating machinery. All are agreed that Burnham must go. Friday's document would introduce a separate arrangements similar to those which have so signally failed in recent times. The Government holds the view that for an interim period we need an advisory committee and I shall tomorrow introduce the Bill announced in the Queen's Speech to establish such a committee.

I have been and I remain willing to see the local authorities and the unions about these matters. But I am not willing to allow this highly unsatisfactory situation to continue. Our children are entitled to better schooling and that has often been denied them over the last two years. The House, the public and all parents will understand that the Government must put our children first.

Mr Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said that although the Opposition were in favour of reform of the Burnham machinery, they would strongly oppose any legislation which removed bargaining rights.

He also welcomed the fact that, despite press reports, there

What he had set out on October 30 had been the Government's position, the framework against which an agreement could have been reached acceptable to the Government.

The present document was not in fact an agreement, it was an agreement to submit proposals to members of the unions, and that process was in hand and might take several weeks.

There were real worries within the unions. He had seen the secretary of the Head Teachers' Association and noted their anxiety about structure. He had also met representatives of the Professional Association of Teachers and the National Association of Head Teachers and would be seeing them again.

He would be willing to hear further representations. Mr John Pearman, the local authority representative, had been to see him the previous evening and they had discussed the principles of costs and structure.

The suggestion that the differences were minor was not right, those relating to structure would lay down the rules for the teaching profession for the rest of the century.

For example, in running a large secondary school with 75-80 teachers it was usual for 50-60 to hold some sort of incentive or promotion post. The proposal would reduce this to 15-20. On the other hand, in a secondary school on that basis if you could not provide the incentives to the good teachers.

He could not accept such a "flat earth" pay structure with insufficient incentive and promotion posts.

Mr James Pawsey (Rugby and Kenilworth, C): The parents will respect what is being done and acknowledge that the pay on the table for the teachers is a good deal for the profession, for schools and for teachers.

Mr Baker: The amount available is the largest in any teachers' pay deal - £600 million and it is a great pity that the negotiators spread it in a way which intensifies the financial approach to pay structure.

Mr Clemens Freed (North East Cambridgeshire, L): Does he genuinely think this negotiation of negotiating procedure will bring long-lasting peace?

Mr Baker: There can be no justification for disruption.

Mr Jack Donnard (Essex, Lab): His proposals are a recipe for further disruption. He makes great play with the fact that this is the biggest increase there has been but the proportion is not as great as was agreed in the Houghton report. How does he intend to implement assessment of teachers. Whether it is by head teachers, local inspectors or HM inspectors, it is an exceedingly difficult task and nothing like as easy as he is making out.

Mr Baker: In our discussions with local authorities we have agreed on six pilot projects in which I intend to set up a fund. There is no one set method for appraisal of teachers.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): If he had sat down and planned disruption, Mr Baker could not have done a more brilliant job than making this statement. If he persists in his attitude, there is not the slightest doubt the teachers will strike. The profession is unified against what the Government is doing.

Mr Baker: He cannot say the profession is unified. A substantial amount has been provided for a settlement. Many working parents who are not likely to see the sort of increases available in these proposals will resent it if the teachers walk out on their classes.

He said later that he had no plans to transfer teachers' salaries from local authorities to central government responsibility.



Mr Baker: Useful progress has been made.

set up a system of appraisal, established negotiating machinery, linked pay and conditions and defined maximum class size for the first time.

While accepting that there remained differences between the Secretary of State's position and the agreement, particularly over structure and costs, these differences had been exaggerated.

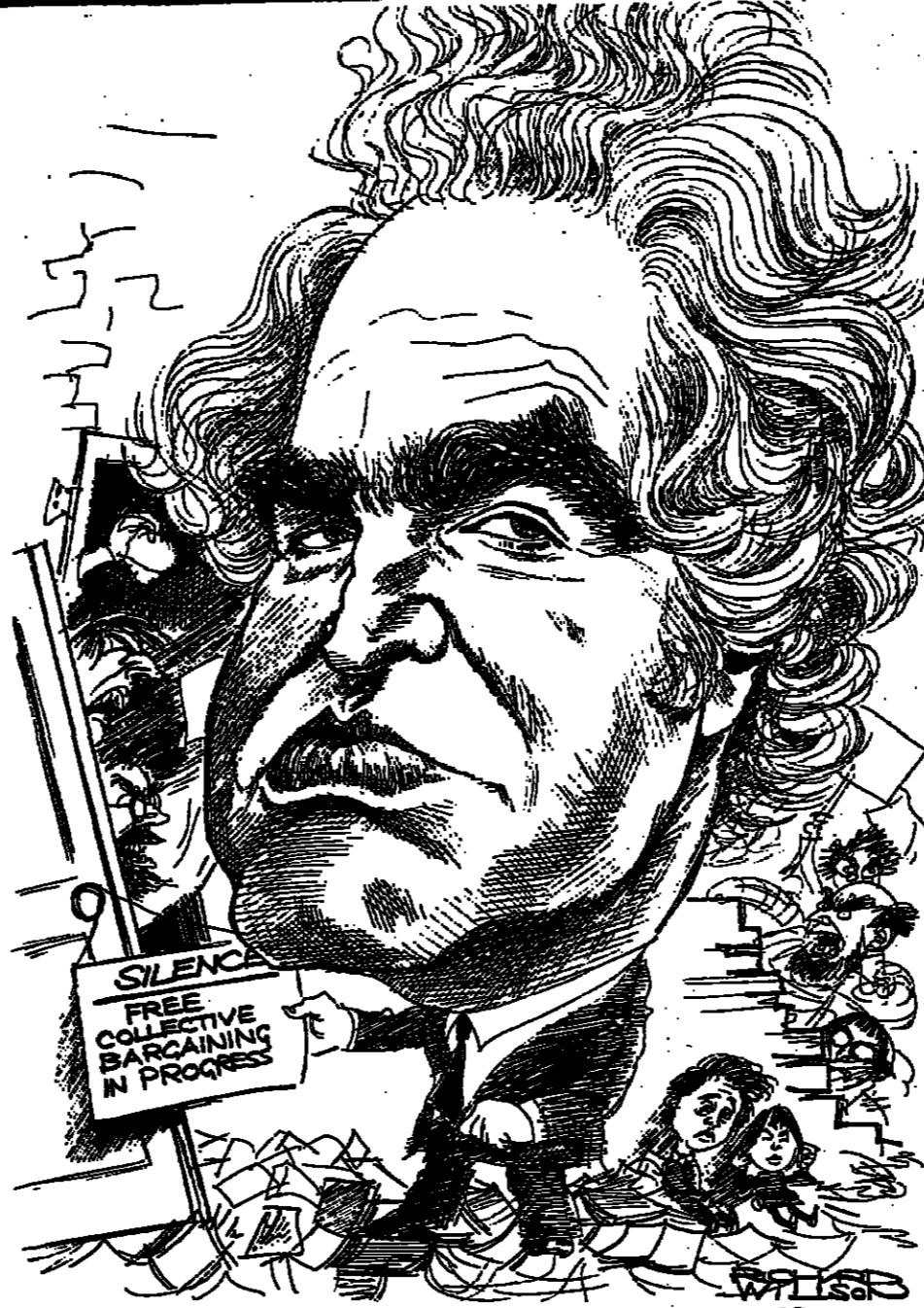
"It is really telling the House that these difficulties are insurmountable? Is it not the case that the employers made it abundantly clear to him last night that they are prepared to discuss the differences in a flexible and reasonable manner?"

"So far the Secretary of State's handling of the dispute has been inept", he said, to loud protests from the Government benches.

"His ham-fisted intervention at Nottingham, and his unfortunate comment to the House just 30 hours before there was a settlement, about the talks being a fiasco."

"He still has a chance to redeem himself by talking seriously and constructively to the employers and teachers and reaching an agreement with them. Will he confirm that he is going to do this, because parents will not forgive him or the Government if he fails to grasp this opportunity for lasting peace in our schools?"

Mr Baker said that six weeks ago Mr Radice had accused him of dithering for not making his position clear. Then when he had made it clear he was accused of being ham-fisted and inept.



Mr Giles Radice: Attack on an "inept and ham-fisted" Secretary of State.

Anglo-Irish pact fears 'are manifestly false'

IRELAND

The Anglo-Irish agreement was a way in which by good will and co-operation a happier future would be seen for people both in Northern Ireland and the Republic.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in the Commons.

One year on, while people might be critical of the lack of achievement, they could not be ignorant that many of the allegations, fears and misrepresentations which existed at the time had proved to be manifestly false.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP): Five weeks ago Mr King told the House in the context of the agreement that he expected ratification of the European Convention on Terrorism by the Irish Republic to go forward shortly. Has something gone wrong?

Mr King: No. The Bill for ratification was signed by the Irish Minister of Justice some time ago. It was tabled in the Dail for its parliamentary procedures only this week.

Mr Michael Colvin (Romey and Waterside, C): Would he get a message through to the Garda that Sunday are working days where the IRA are concerned? What were the Garda doing about patrolling the south side of the border last Sunday when my old regiment were mortarbombed by the IRA?

Mr King: I fully share his concern about the incident and on Sunday phoned the Irish Minister of Justice about it. One must be fair and recognize that it is the first mortar attack, so far as I am aware, that has taken place from the Republic.

Mr Roy Mason (Barnsley Central, Lab): What improvement has taken place in security co-operation between the RUC and the Garda in the past 12 months, particularly on cross-border operations?

Mr King: There is now the detailed fresh assessment which has been agreed. There has been agreement between the Garda and the RUC on co-operation on intelligence matters and the

difficulties that would exist over this issue.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Orpington, C): Two months after the conclusion of the agreement the majority remain unalterably opposed to it. The best way forward is to find an agreement acceptable to the majority in accordance with democratic principles as well as being fair to the minority.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C): Does not the experience of the first 12 months show that instead of peace there has been strife, instead of stability, turmoil, and instead of reconciliation, sectarian suspicion? What progress has he made in securing from the majority community support for an assurance that there will be no further forward? I regret the unwillingness of one party after another and each party is equally guilty of abstaining at one stage or another from our various initiatives to try to find some way forward. I regret the present attitude of the majority community.

Mr Robert Maclean (Cathness and Sutherland, SDP) later said that there was considerable interest in the possibility of developing local representative democracy in Northern Ireland even if there was a stalemate in the central institutions of government. That would strengthen local control over local decision-making.

Mr Richard Needham, Under-Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said that as part of the devolution package which the Government was likely to put forward in Northern Ireland, he was considering, if only members of the majority parties were prepared to go into negotiation with ministers, it was something they would wish to consider.

Mr Stuart Bell, an Opposition spokesman Northern Ireland, asked for an assurance that talks with the majority community on devolution would not involve suspension of the Northern Ireland agreement.

Mr Needham: I shall speak to anyone who comes to my door, and in the present framework of government it is only with the majority would find the way to my door.

methods of organizing it, on organizational structure and on certain details of communications into which I am not prepared to go into detail in public.

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Thatcher stands her ground on Wright case

PRIME MINISTER

The issues raised by the Peter Wright case dominated Prime Minister's question time in the Commons with Mrs Thatcher, in the teeth of noisy Labour protests, refusing to comment on security matters, saying that she was following the precedent set by previous prime ministers and acting in accordance with *Erskine May*, the guide to parliamentary procedure.

The exchanges were opened by Mr John Heddle (Mid Staffordshire, C) who asked: Is it not the case that all those who work for British intelligence have a life-long duty of confidentiality to the Crown? Is it not the duty of the Government of the day and of the Opposition parties to uphold that fundamental principle and not to relegate it for party political purposes?

Mrs Thatcher replied: He is right. Hereto, governments of all parties have upheld that fundamental principle, otherwise the effectiveness of the security services would be undermined. I pay tribute to the overwhelming majority of those in the security services, who recognize their obligations and duty of confidentiality.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition: May I warmly endorse both the last question and the last answer?

Will the Prime Minister tell us if the decision not to impose the publication of Mr Chapman Pincher's book in 1981 was taken personally by the Attorney General and was the decision to put Sir Robert Armstrong in court in Australia taken personally by the Attorney General?

Mrs Thatcher: As I said to the House last Thursday, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on matters which may arise in the proceedings concerning the Peter Wright case in Australia while these proceedings continue.

On the general question of security matters, I shall follow the precedent set by previous prime ministers and I understand upheld in *Erskine May* is not commenting on security matters.

Mr Kinnock: This is a specific question about decisions and responsibilities inside the Government that has no implications whatever for matters of national security. While it does not raise questions about the security services, does it raise questions about the competence and integrity of the Government.

So will the Prime Minister give a straight answer to a straight question: Did the Attorney General take either or both of these decisions personally? In these matters, is the Attorney General a fool or a fall guy?

Mrs Thatcher: His question I think is totally unworthy. On the general question of security, I shall follow the precedent set by previous prime ministers and I understand upheld in *Erskine May*.

May of not commenting on security matters.

Mr Kinnock: The Prime Minister must now then explain what is the inference for national security of telling us whether it was an individual member of her Government that personally, not necessarily as a member, but personally took the decision. That does have a direct effect on the integrity of national security in this country.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government is indivisible (Labour laughter). Decisions are made by the Government and not by particular ministers.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP: [The Prime Minister] has offered the opportunity of putting this issue away from parliament and into an all-party select committee.

Mrs Thatcher: He offers proposals in opposition which he did not do in office and we understand why - because he is doing it for party political reasons.

I repeat, the practice and custom of all prime ministers of all parties to adhere to the normal practice of not commenting on security matters.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Commons affairs, on a point of order, said: Mr Kinnock asked the Prime Minister a direct question about the role of the Attorney General in the Chapman Pincher case.

She replied by saying that according to *Erskine May* this question fell within a security classification and therefore she was entitled not to reply to it.

I would be grateful, Mr Speaker, if you can help the House by checking the file and reporting back to us as to whether or not this does come under the classification of security matters; what the Prime Minister is entitled not to answer.

The second point of order arose from another reply of the Prime Minister when she said that her Government was not giving any separate answer about the role of the Attorney General.

Surely it is a constitutional fact and accepted principle of the constitution that the Attorney General has a special position in the Government and gives advice quite separate from the communicated decisions of the Government. He is not therefore to be incorporated within the collective office of the Government.

The Speaker: The rules regarding what is admissible are set out on pages 342 and 343 of *Erskine May* and the whole House knows what they are. The Prime Minister's answer as to the indivisibility of Government, that is not a matter for me.

Legal onslaught on minister

The following is a summary of debates in the Commons that appeared in later editions of this newspaper yesterday.

The Government's position on the dispute at J.A. Hanger & Co, the Rochester company that supplies artificial limbs, was legally unsond, Mr Frank Dobson, an Opposition spokesman on health, said in moving an Opposition motion regarding the intention of service to severely disabled people.

He said that the contract for the supply and fitting of limbs was not between the company and the people. It was between the company and the Government.

Failure to provide a proper service was in breach of that contract. Yet still the Government refused to take resolute action to end the dispute which had been going on for 10 weeks and a day.

The company was run by odious toads. DHSS ministers were craven and complacent and they would rather patients suffered and workers and their families went without than risk offending the sort of company on which the Prime Minister doted.

Mr John Major, Minister for Social Security, moved a government amendment urging the management and workforce to resolve the dispute without delay and noting with approval the Government's initiatives to minimize inconvenience to patients.

He said this was an industrial dispute between the management and one part of its workforce and it could be resolved only by them.

Mr Toby Jessel (Twickenham, C) said that from what he had heard tonight the management was unimpressive and had shown poor qualities of leadership in the workforce.

Mr Nicholas Lyell, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said that of the 53,000 lower-limb patients, 29,000 were Hanger's patients, of whom 3,000 relied on Rochester. Of these, 350 had been affected by the dispute and 116 of them were priority cases, including 13 children. There had been fewer than 10 complaints and all had been dealt with.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 246 votes to 167 Government majority, 79, and the Government amendment was carried by 210 votes to 21 - Government majority, 189.

● BUS RULES: The benefits to bus passengers from the deregulation of routes under the Transport Act, 1985, were now beginning to be shown, Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, maintained during a Commons debate.

Labour MPs, however, took a different view and complained of loss of services, irregular timetabling and huge increases

in fares since deregulation last month.

The debate was opened by Mr Robert Hughes, Opposition spokesman on transport, who said that deregulation was an ill-considered move which would mean the loss of essential services to the public.

Those who depended on public transport for mobility - the elderly, women and children, large housing estates, and country people - were all being sacrificed in the pursuit of profit.

Mr Moore, moving an amendment criticizing the Government on its radical measures to amend the Transport Act, industry, said that the Government had made the most radical changes in the industry for 50 years.

It had removed outdated controls and had sought to create the maximum possible potential for innovation and efficiency. At the same time, it had safeguarded the provision of socially worthwhile but financially unprofitable routes.

Mr George Howarth (Knowsley North, Lab) in a maiden speech, said that 67 per cent of all households in his constituency did not have access to the use of a car. Deregulation had had many effects on his constituents, all of them for the worse. In some cases it made it difficult for them to get to work.

The lack of buses was beginning to have a deleterious effect on the local economy.

Mr Roger Stott, an Opposition spokesman on transport, said that deregulation was aimed at preventing Ulster terrorists seeking to escape prosecution from remaining in the United States, was approved in the Commons on Wednesday night.

MPs, without a vote, accepted changes to close the loophole by which terrorists were able to avoid extradition by claiming that their offences were of a political nature.

Minimum wage 'with caution'

By Roy Hattersley, the shadow Chancellor, said yesterday that a future Labour government would proceed cautiously in introducing a national minimum wage.

Implementation of the policy, agreed at the TUC conference in the face of fierce opposition from the transport workers' and the electricians' unions, would not be "easy or without some penalties", he said.

Speaking at a Fabian Society conference in London, Mr Hattersley said: "A national minimum wage has to be phased into our wage structure with some care."

"No responsible party - and no responsible trade union movement - could make an exact commitment on either the level or timing of a year before a general election."

At the TUC conference, Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, opposed the move, saying it could be a slippery slope to a statutory incomes policy.

Mr Hattersley met that charge head on, insisting that he was opposed to such a policy and that a minimum wage would enhance trade union activity.

Alliance and the councils Baker 'most dangerous man'

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, was branded yesterday the most dangerous member of the Cabinet as the Alliance launched a bitter attack on the Government for eroding the powers of local authorities.

It claimed that the real motive behind "Tory paranoia" about "loony left" councils was the desire to reduce local government to parish-pump status and to concentrate control in Whitehall.

It singled out Mr Baker - "the mad to Tebbit's ricker" - for special scorn because behind his disarming manner he was destroying the independence of local education authorities through setting up new schools funded directly by his department and was now poised to impose a settlement in the teachers' pay dispute.

Mr Adrian Slade, president-elect of the Liberal Party, said: "I believe the current Baker, Tebbit, Ridley obsession with the inequities and uselessness of local government is pure Tory paranoia."

"Where sensible people are actually in charge and conducting government sensibly then local government works well."

Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the SDP, said local politics was becoming

eration at all for good administration and the people of this country."

The attack on Mr Baker came from Mr David Williams, Alliance leader of the London Borough of Richmond.

Mrs Williams, a former Labour Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that if Mr Baker decided to "hijack the teachers' pay settlement" it would amount to the "greatest act of centralization since the introduction of compulsory education in 1870".

The Alliance counter-attack on the Conservatives came at a press conference to launch a booklet extolling his achievements at local level.

It says that about 40 per cent of the population live under an authority with Alliance influence and the number of Liberal and SDP councillors has risen from 1,912 in 1982 to 3,680 in May this year.

Of the country's 513 councils, 105 were subject to Alliance influence, of which 24 were majority or minority administrations.

Value for money, giving tenants more say over the management of their estates, better equipped schools and open government are among the changes wrought by recent shifts of power in towns and shires, the booklet says.

Minister refuses to rush report

There was no question of the Government's jumping in with action ahead of consideration of the Sampson report on the RUC, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said yesterday.

Mr King said that the report was a matter of political attitudes, there are real and practical problems concerned in this issue.

It is a matter that is likely to be on the agenda for further discussion. We have made no secret of our concern about the

of conspiracy or some attempt to make sure that areas he was investigating would not be reached.

Mr King: I bitterly regret that the inquiry was not more speedy and that there was this interruption of the background. The inquiry was at the request of the Chief Constable of the RUC who appointed Mr Stalker.

He then received information from the Chief Constable of Manchester that Mr Stalker was no longer available and against that background took immediate steps to see that the inquiry proceeded by appointing someone else. Any question about the suspension of Mr Stalker by Manchester police authority was not a matter for me.

Mr Warren Hawkesley (The Wrekin, C): Is he satisfied that the inquiry was done thoroughly and to his satisfaction?

Mr King: It is not possible at this stage to reach that judgment. The reports have been with the Chief Constable and the DPP. I have not seen them. I shall see the first shortly. I have made clear that I shall want to address a number of matters.

Miss Betty Boothroyd's question to the Prime Minister (Parliament, November 26) should have read: "In the light of recent disclosures showing that President Reagan's admission of a limited supply of arms to Iran fell very far short of the truth, does Mrs Thatcher still stand by her original statement that she believes implicitly in the President's integrity in this matter?"

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Parliament today
Commons (9.30): Banking Bill, second reading.

Decision football deferred

Commercial may face

PS and law changes in ju

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Iranian regime 'shaken by links'

By Hazhir Teimourian

Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, Iran's first President after the Islamic revolution of February 1979, said yesterday that the disclosures of Iran's arms purchases from the United States and Israel had shaken the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini to its foundations.

They had also weakened the position of Hojatoleslam Ali-Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the parliamentary Speaker, as the main contender for power after Ayatollah Khomeini.

Speaking to *The Times* from his place of exile in Paris, Mr Bani-Sadr said the sudden arrest in Tehran on charges of immorality of Mr Mamouchehr Nikrouz, the parliamentary Deputy for the Jewish community, showed that the regime did not know how to react to the revelations that it had been dealing with Israel, whose obliteration it had consistently promised its supporters.

"Khomeini is desperate to maintain an anti-Israeli posture."

Mr Bani-Sadr said the first secret contacts with Israel were made in 1980 by a faction of the ruling clergy but that he, as chairman of the Supreme Revolutionary Council, had stopped them.

"But the contacts were resumed after they carried out their first coup against me. Ever since, a vast flood of weaponry has been on its way from Israel to Iran."

Mr Bani-Sadr had no doubts about what he had sabotaged the arms deals and the release of American hostages in Lebanon. "It was an anti-Rafsanjani faction within the Foreign Ministry that was in charge of Islamic Jihad, the kidnap gang," he said.

ROME: No sooner had the Italians managed to smooth over their alleged involvement in the affair of supplying arms for Iran than the Iranians themselves delivered two strongly-worded protests against a sketch said to have been "sacrilegious" on Italy's state television and withdrew their ambassador (Peter Nichols writes).

At the same time the Iranian authorities closed the Italian Cultural Institute in Tehran.

According to the embassy here the decision to withdraw the ambassador was taken because the parody in the television programme of Ayatollah Khomeini was taken as "a grave insult."

As the sketch went out on the Italian state network the embassy said it felt the Italian government should have taken up the matter. Signor Giuseppe Baldozzi, the Italian ambassador in Iran, was summoned for the second time on Wednesday evening to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was somewhat taken aback to learn that the sketch was seen to have possibly "grave consequences on relations between the two countries."

The parody of Iran's leader amounted to a "hostile measure" and threats were uttered that Iran would "make the Italians repeat their disgusting behaviour."

The ten men at the heart of Reagan's arms crisis



President Reagan's troubled Cabinet in session in the White House discussing the Iran arms crisis. Clockwise from left: Mr Reagan, Mr George Shultz (obscured), Mr Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary, Mr Edwin Meese, Attorney General, Mr William Casey, head of the CIA, Admiral John Poindexter, Congressman Jim Wright, Senator Robert Byrd, Senator Robert Dole and Vice-President George Bush.

Contras say cash from Iran arms deals could have paid for air drops

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Contra leaders, who at first denied all knowledge of the funds funnelled from the Iran arms sales, are now saying that the secret operation that flew weapons to their forces in Nicaragua could have been financed by the Iran shipments.

Mr Adolfo Calero, a senior Contra leader based in Miami, said that the Contras received "services", including the air supply operation, from several unnamed donors. But he never knew how much these cost, or who organized and paid for them.

It is being suggested, however, that each clandestine flight over Nicaragua cost at least \$30,000 (£21,000) and some 80 flights were made in the past year. Between February and October 5, when a cargo plane was shot down, the resupply operation, run from a Salvadoran military air base, cost well over \$2 million, sources say. But the Contras contend that their private backers in the US were unable to raise more than \$500,000 from normal appeals during that period.

New evidence has also emerged suggesting that Major-General Richard Secord, a retired Air Force officer who once served in Iran and was a senior Pentagon official for the Middle East, played a key role in the resupply programme. He had close links to Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the dismissed military adviser in the National Security Council responsible for the operation.

General Secord has been named as the buyer of five C 123 cargo planes used in the US supply runs from the US through El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica into Nicaragua. One of these was shot down on October 5, and the sole American survivor, Mr Eugene Hascufus, gave many details of the operation.

Initially the Contra leaders denied all knowledge of the secret Swiss bank funds. Mr Calero, who oversees procurement of military supplies, said that he was not aware of any connection with Iran and denied flatly that he had drawn any funds from Switzerland.

"These revelations were unloaded on us all of a sudden," he said. "We have been like innocent bystanders at a car accident."

The resupply network was told that its money came from "foreign sources", but it now emerges that the network involved former Central Intelligence Agency staff, including some with ties to the office of Vice-President Bush.

Mr Bush has said nothing on the Iran affair and has resolutely avoided answering all reporters' questions at public functions. He was cleared by Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, of any knowledge of the Contra connection but many questions remain on his links with the Contras.

Intelligence sources say that the profits from the Iran arms sale were deposited in the account of Credit Fideuciare Services, a Geneva investment banking operation run by several former CIA officials, including General Secord, Mr Theodore Shackley and Mr Thomas Chines.

Telephone records from El Salvador show that several calls were placed to General Secord's home and business tied to North Virginia last summer from a "safe house" in the resupply operation.

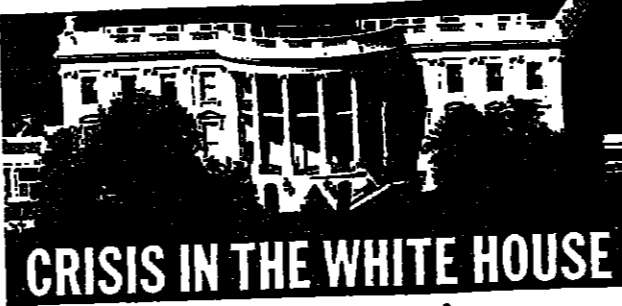
He has acknowledged having sold one small aircraft last year, but has denied having commanded the Contra air force. He has also suggested that he had an advisory role in the Iran arms shipments, but has refused to say how he was involved.

Federal investigators are also trying to discover whether the middle men involved in the flights and resupply drops syphoned off money by themselves. The high cost of the flights over Nicaragua was said to be a result of the "risk factor".

The investigators will subpoena documents, records and even any telephone intercepts as they gather evidence.

Monitored telephone conversations played a big part in the original discovery of the Contra connection. A secret intelligence intercept quoted Iranians and perhaps others discussing the price of weapons in amounts that appeared to be far greater than their actual value, prompting the search for the profits and the reason they were diverted.

Sources say that while the resupply operation cost millions of dollars - with monthly costs running about \$100,000 for aircraft, fuel and salaries - it is unlikely that the Contras received as much as \$10 million, the lowest figure cited by Mr Meese as having been diverted to the Contra effort.



CRISIS IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Long-standing ties with Israel, PLO

By Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent

The millions of dollars of profit from US-Iranian arms sales that were channelled to the Contra guerrillas in central America form only the latest chapter in a long history of military involvement in Nicaragua by the Israelis and the Palestinians.

The Israeli authorities and the Palestinian Liberation Organization in Lebanon have helped to arm or train pro- and anti-government forces during the past seven years, although Nicaragua's first contact with the Middle East conflict was as long ago as 1940.

The Somoza family, which had then been in power for only seven years, is believed to have sent weapons to Jewish guerrillas in Palestine in the early years of the Second World War, shipping them to the Middle East aboard a vessel flying the Nicaraguan flag.

Israel's first military support for the Somoza family's successors - the Contras of Nicaragua, who have been funded by the Americans - started in 1983 when hundreds of second-hand guns were sent to the guerrillas to use against Sandinista Government troops.

The shipment from Israel included 2,000 Kalashnikov AK 47 automatic rifles and hundreds of RPG 7 anti-tank rockets which the Israelis had captured from the PLO during their invasion of Lebanon in 1982. The PLO supported the Sandinista guerrillas before and after they toppled the Somoza dictatorship in 1979.

Palestinian guerrillas helped to train the Sandinista National Liberation Front before the civil war and several Nicaraguans loyal to the revolutionary government visited the PLO in Beirut before the Israeli invasion. The Sandinistas are international congresses and the Iranians have established warm relations with the Ortega Government.

Arab leaders have for months known of intelligence reports that the Iranians have sent a small and symbolic shipment of American rifles to Ortega's army, thus enabling anti-American troops to fight with US weapons against pro-American guerrillas armed with PLO guns.

JERUSALEM: Arms dealers in Israel exploited the fact that American equipment was being channelled through Israel to Iran to make secret sales of their own, according to informed sources here (Ian Murray writes).

The Israeli Government, aware of the deals sanctioned by Washington, turned a blind eye to the private deals in the hope that they would help to improve relations with Iran and lead to the release of Israeli soldiers believed to be held by the Syrian-backed Amal militia or the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God).

WORLD SUMMARY

Israel, Lebanon join PLO battles

Sidon - Lebanese Army soldiers and the Israeli Air Force were unexpectedly dragged yesterday into the four-day battle between Shia Muslim Amal militia and Palestinian guerrillas in south Lebanon (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes).

Hours after Lebanese soldiers carried by tanks joined Amal forces in an attempt to recapture the strategic hilltop village of Magdacheh, Israeli aircraft bombed Palestinian guerrilla positions in the middle of the battlefield.

The raid was Israel's 17th air strike against Palestinian targets in Lebanon this year. Witnesses said several Phantom jets rocketed three PLO artillery positions amid barrages of anti-aircraft fire and shoulder-fired missiles.

"There's no doubt, now the Israelis are now helping Amal," a young guerrilla of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said.

New face on Bench

Los Angeles - Mr George Deukmejian, the Governor of California, has named a conservative to replace Chief Justice Rose Bird, the most liberal member of the state's High Court, who is to step down on January 1 (Ivor Davis writes).

Justice Malcolm Lucas, aged 59, a former law partner of the Governor, has promised to try to "heal some of the wounds" inflicted on the court during this year's bitter election campaigns, which resulted in Californian voters ousting Judge Bird and two of her associates, Justices Cruz Reynoso and Joseph Grodin.

Return to Uganda

Nairobi (Reuters) - Uganda and Britain have agreed in principle that British police instructors will return to Uganda to train the police force for the first time since the former President Milton Obote was deposed last year, officials at the British High Commission in Kampala said yesterday.

The countries have not yet agreed details, but the instructors, probably based in Kampala, are more likely to train instructors than the rank and file.

The last members of a British military training team left Uganda last weekend with the expiry of a six-month agreement.

Harare holds chief

Harare - President Canaan Banana yesterday ordered the detention of Mr Damiso Dabengwa, aged 47, one of his most formidable opposition chiefs, to continue, creating new tension in political unity discussions which were close to being finalized (Jan Rasth writes).

The ruling Zanu (PF) Party and the Zapu Party of Mr Joshua Nkomo, which has the loyalty of the Ndebele-speaking minority in western Zimbabwe, have been inching toward an agreement that promises to end rivalries and to bring about a *de facto* one-party state in Zimbabwe.

Mr Dabengwa, a shadowy but revered figure who directed the Zapu military effort in the liberation war, has been in detention since early 1982.

Festive reprieve

Washington - Citing God, personal beliefs and the spirit of Thanksgiving Day, the outgoing Governor of New Mexico, Mr Tony Anaya, yesterday reprieved five men on Death Row (Christopher Thomas writes).

It was the first mass reprieve in the US since 1970. Mr Anaya, a Democrat, was defeated in the November election by Mr Garrey Carruthers, who had campaigned heavily on the law and order issue and is furious at the act of clemency. He intends to challenge its legality.

Taxing McEnroe

New York - The United States Internal Revenue Service wants John McEnroe, the tennis star, to pay more than \$900,000 (£650,000) in back taxes, but McEnroe's lawyer says the IRS has incorrect information (AP reports).

The IRS contends that McEnroe, aged 27, took improper deductions on his 1982 tax returns amounting to \$946,291. But his lawyer said McEnroe filed a petition this month to overturn a three-year statute of limitations that has passed without IRS conducting an audit.

US lead world chess

Dubai (Reuters) - The fifth-seeded US team held a clear lead yesterday after 10 rounds of play in the Dubai chess Olympiad, with the Soviet Union, England and Spain jointly holding second place on 27 points, one behind.

Yasser Seirawan, the US Grandmaster, won an adjourned game from the ninth round over the third-seeded Hungarians, and the Soviet Union edged past Romania after a draw was agreed between the world champion, Garry Kasparov, and the Romanian grandmaster, Mihai Suba.

Kasparov said that allegations by the English team that the Russians had aided Spain in their crushing 3½-½ upset of England were "ridiculous and insulting". The appeal of the English captain, David Anderson, has made no progress.

Gorbachov call for Indian Ocean peace zone

Offer to reduce superpower tensions

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, last night made a series of dramatic proposals aimed at reducing the superpower tension which has been slowly building up in the Indian Ocean region.

Speaking to a joint session of the Indian houses of Parliament in Delhi, Mr Gorbachov made his proposals as a series of announcements, each of which while undoubtedly contributing to a relaxation of tension would at the same time extend Soviet interest in the region.

He suggested first of all that the United Nations should convene, by 1988 at the latest, an international conference to declare the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Then he declared: "The Soviet Union is prepared to begin, with the United States, and with other non-litigious states, negotiations on substantially reducing the size of naval forces in the Indian Ocean."

He continued by suggesting that the safety of the sea lanes could be made the subject of new guarantees, which would ensure freedom of passage in the Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz and the Strait of Malacca. He undertook to take part "in the long-overdue agreement" on the safety of the air lanes over the Indian Ocean.

He offered to participate in the drafting of, and to become a party to, an international convention to combat terrorism on the seas and in the air.

He also made the suggestion that Russia would be prepared to co-operate with other space powers to establish an international centre to carry out joint research and develop space technologies at the request of the developing countries.

Part of such a centre would be a school for training specialists from the developing world, he said, including comsatellites. He said that if India were prepared to host such a centre "we would welcome it".

Speaking in the central hall of the pillared circular Parliament building designed by Sir Herbert Baker, Mr Gorbachov clearly made his proposals as a bid for establishing the Asian security pact which has been a Russian police idea since the time of the late President Brezhnev's visit to India in the 1970s, which he reformulated recently in Vladivostok.

"One-third of Asia's territory is in the Soviet Union," he said, and emphasized the importance of the sea lanes of the Indian Ocean, linking as they did the east and the west of his country.

"Peace in Europe and peace in Asia are of equal significance to us," he said.

He also spoke of his country's commitment to the United Nations.

Earlier in the day, Mr Gorbachov and Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, signed a "Delhi Declaration" calling for specific and immediate action for nuclear disarmament.

It followed the Gorbachov line, announced on January 15, and urged the complete destruction of nuclear arsenals before the end of the century, the barring of all weapons from outer space, the banning of all nuclear weapons tests, the prohibition of the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction, the banning of chemical weapons and the destruction of their stockpiles, and the reducing of conventional armies too.

In the meantime, since nuclear weapons are plainly not going to be eliminated overnight, the two countries proposed that an international convention banning the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons should be concluded immediately.

Indian and Soviet officials also signed a technical and economic agreement, an accord to establish a Festival of India in Russia and a Festival of Russia in India, and an agreement to increase the number of their consuls.

While the signing was going on Mrs Raisa Gorbachov, the Soviet leader's wife, was undertaking some serious tourism around Delhi.

She visited the historic twelfth-century site of the Qutb Minar, where one of the first Muslim conquerors built the grand mosque out of the ruins of 27 Hindu temples.

Mr Gorbachov, whose winsome smile and effortless good humour has won her many friends in India, was persistently inquisitive about what she was being shown.

At times she asked her guide, Mr Nagarajan Rao, the director-general of the Archaeological Survey of India, questions of such all-embracing magnitude that they defied answering. "What is the most characteristic feature of Hindu art?" she demanded, or "Have the craftsmen nowadays retained their traditional skills?"

That one Mr Rao was pleased to answer: "From the Himalayas to Kanyakumari, they are still drawing on those traditions and developing them," he said.

France hit by realist protesters

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Hundreds of thousands of students marched throughout France yesterday in protest against the Government's proposed university reforms, due to go before Parliament last night. It was said to be the largest student demonstration since May 1968.

But today's clean-faced, short-haired rebels have little in common with their nihilistic, revolutionary predecessors. They are pragmatic realists, not idealistic dreamers. They want the withdrawal of the Government's Education Bill, not the overthrow of society.

In Paris the old evocative meeting-points in the Latin Quarter were again used, but there were only a few skirmishes between extreme-right student factions and the organizers of the main student body.

The police were there in force, complete with riot gear, tear-gas canisters and water cannons. But they kept as discreet a distance as possible, intervening only to try to keep the students from storming the National Assembly, where the Education Bill was to have been debated, though there was a strong possibility last night that the deputies would not reach the Bill until today.

The Government appears to have decided on appeasement rather than confrontation. In a speech to Parliament on Wednesday, M Alain Devaquet, Minister for Higher Education, said that the students' protest should be "treated with care".

The students' main grievance is over the Government's alleged plans to introduce selection into university entrance.

Bonn expels four Syrian diplomats

attempting to blow up an EAI jumbo jet, had a service pass from the Syrian Embassy in London.

Herr Ost said that the German Government would raise the question of the involvement of Syrian "authorities" in East Berlin in the bomb attack in talks with the East German Government.

West Germany's moves against Syria came only 24 hours after a West Berlin court convicted two Jordanians, one of them a brother of Hindawi, of bombing a German-Arab society's centre in the city on March 29 and injuring nine people.

Western military governments in West Berlin said later that they were banning "certain Syrian citizens" from their sectors of the divided city. This means that Syrians living in East Berlin will not be able to cross into West Berlin. A US military spokesman said that the order was taking effect immediately.

WASHINGTON: The United States will strongly welcome the new measures and restrictions in relations with Syria announced in Bonn (Michael Binyon writes).

The West German measures, though short of a break in diplomatic relations, are the kind of steps Washington has been urging on its allies.

Ankara - A court trying alleged members of the Abu Nidal and Islamic Jihad organizations for the murder of a Jordanian diplomat has issued an international arrest warrant for the Syrian Embassy Second Secretary, Mr Muhammad Darwiche Saladi, who left Turkey last Thursday (Rasit Gurdilek writes).

Mr Saladi was among nine defendants, three of whom are being tried in absentia, who are on trial for the murder of Mr Ziad Sati, the First Secretary at the Jordanian Embassy, on July 24 last year.

Three free trial in treason to Pretoria re camp raid r railway lead pouch PNV

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Three freed but 19 face trial in Transvaal treason test for ANC

From Michael Hornsby, Delmas, Transvaal

Three out of 22 black men charged with treason and murder were acquitted on all counts in the Magistrates' Court of this small farming town yesterday, but the rest were told by the judge, Mr Justice Kees Van Dijkhorst, that they had a prima-facie case to answer.

Judge Dijkhorst for the first time granted a defence request for release on bail, but only for six of the accused. The remainder, who have already been in detention for periods ranging from 18 months to two years, will spend their second successive Christmas behind bars.

Those released must each put up bail of 15,000 rand (24,700), must not attend any gathering, must report twice a day to a police station, and must not enter five black townships in the Vaal River area south of Johannesburg, even though all but one of them have their homes there.

The trial, the biggest treason trial in 30 years, is seen as crucial for the future of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the loose alliance of hundreds of grass-roots anti-apartheid organizations which has developed into the most potent above-ground opposition to the Government.

Of the remaining 19 accused, 15 are members of the UDF or affiliates, three are members of the black consciousness-oriented Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO), and one has no political affiliation. The UDF accused include three of its leading figures, Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick Lekota and Mr Moses Chikane.

Preliminary court appearances took place as long ago as June last year, but the trial proper began only on January 20, when all the accused pleaded not guilty. Lawyers involved in the case think the trial could well continue for another year at least.

Judge Dijkhorst's ruling came in response to a submission by the defence led by Mr George Bizos, the seasoned civil rights advocate, that the state had failed to produce any credible evidence to support its charges and that all the accused should be set free.

While the judge agreed that three minor figures, Mr Simon Vilakazi, Mr Lazarus More and Mr Amos Malindi, all in their twenties, had no case to answer, he found there was prima-facie evidence of a conspiracy to commit treason and murder on the part of the other accused.

The case arises out of the riots, sparked by protests over rent increases, which erupted in Sharpeville and other black townships along the Vaal in September 1984, setting off a nationwide chain-reaction of violence which has so far taken more than 2,000 lives.

Judge Dijkhorst argued that a reasonable man might find that the evidence supported the view that the UDF had been involved in a conspiracy, and that it would "not be fanciful" to infer that one goal had been the destruction of local government bodies in the Vaal townships.

As to the charge of murder, Judge Dijkhorst said that the accused must have been aware that threats against township councillors (several of whom were killed in the early days of the violence) might incite mobs to attack them.

It followed, if it was accepted that there was a prima-facie case to answer on the other charges, that in general terms the aims of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) might be said to have been furthered, the judge declared.

The state has had little success in substantiating its claim that the UDF is a front for the ANC, and that, it is guilty of fostering a revolutionary climate.



Black envoy to apartheid regime: Mr Edward Perkins, the first black American Ambassador to Pretoria, arriving to present his credentials to President Botha yesterday.

EEC budget compromise

Soaring cost of farm policy may cause crisis next year

From Richard Owen, Brussels

EEC officials have given a warning that the EEC 1987 budget compromise hammered out early on Wednesday by budget ministers is only a short-term solution and is storing up trouble for the future, particularly over "disastrously" soaring farm costs.

The crisis is now likely to come to a head under the Belgian presidency of the EEC in the first half of next year rather than under the British presidency, which ends on December 31.

But Mrs Thatcher will be under pressure at the London EEC summit meeting next Friday to ease the pain of succeeding presidencies by at least laying the groundwork for overdue reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The EEC budget ministers acknowledged that the European Parliament had sent them an unusually unanimous political message from Strasbourg on the urgent need to cut farm spending, which accounts for two-thirds of the budget and is veering out of control.

Until recently the Parliament tended to support the farm lobby. But the ministers rejected Parliament's proposal for a special fund of nearly £2 billion for the disposal of surplus stocks.

Mr Peter Brooke, Minister of State at the Treasury and president of the Budget Council, told a European Parliament delegation led by M Pierre Pflimlin, the Parliament's president, that EEC governments would not pay the extra contributions.

"It means the Community's financial crisis, when it comes, will be that much worse", one

down with a compromise after all-night talks. The 1987 draft budget of £26.5 billion which he announced on Wednesday enables Britain to claim that an EEC budget has been set which is more or less in line with the Commission's preliminary budget. But it uses up all available resources and is bound to collapse as costs rise next year.

To compound the problem, the budget ministers failed to agree on how to make good the estimated shortfall of £1 billion in this year's budget.

The 1986 budget was ingeniously stitched together by Mr Brooke in July when Britain took over the chair from The Netherlands. But since then the fall in the dollar, rising farm costs and reduced tariff revenues have blown a hole in Mr Brooke's achievement and ministers were unable to agree on Wednesday on where to make savings to keep the 1986 books balanced.

As a result the 1986 overspending is carried forward to 1987, further aggravating next year's looming crisis.

Mr Brooke told M Pflimlin that Parliament's demand for a surplus disposal fund and for radical cuts in milk quotas could be considered by EEC farm ministers only after the London summit.

During the past six months Mr Brooke has acquired a reputation for emerging fresh at

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Pretoria revises camp raid report

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

The Bureau for Information, South Africa's sole source of official news about events covered by the state of emergency laws, did an about-face yesterday over its account of the demolition of a squatter camp in Soweto.

It said on Wednesday that residents of Mofolo North, part of the huge Soveto complex outside Johannesburg, had taken it upon themselves to demolish shacks in the Mshengville squatter camp.

Police were called in, the bureau said, after squatters attacked them with petrol bombs. The police fired back with tear gas, according to the official account.

Yesterday the bureau said that the shacks were "demolished on the instruction of the Soweto Housing Council."

The Star, a Johannesburg newspaper, reported that build-

ings ploughed through more than 100 shacks and that they were demolished in the presence of police and troops.

Mofolo residents, the newspaper claimed, helped the squatters to gather what was left of their shacks and belongings and that tear gas was thrown at groups of squatters weeping over their demolished shelters. A torrential thunderstorm erupted as residents tried to accommodate them.

Meanwhile the so-called Mayor of the Soveto Council, a body spurred by the majority of residents, said that he would resign. Mr Ephraim Tshabalala said that the demolition of the shacks was carried out without warning.

In the black township of Caguen, outside Cape Town, two white policemen were badly injured yesterday in a hand grenade attack.

Basque general election

Breakaway leader aims to poach PNV seats

From Richard Wigg, Victoria

Señor Carlos Garaicoechea is after the widest possible Basque nationalist vote so he holds one of the biggest meetings of his campaign for Sunday's Basque general election in a municipal five court in the capital of Spain's troubled north. Fives is the Basque national sport.

Outside, however, handbills signed by the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), which he once led, warn voters against the former Chief Minister: "Don't vote again for someone who has changed his mind so many times just for a job".

Señor Garaicoechea symbolizes the morass into which the almost 100-year-old PNV



Señor Ardanza: already a victim of the Basque Left.

has fallen, having failed to provide political stability and economic progress while governing for the past six years of Basque home rule.

Ousted as Chief Minister in a bitter power struggle, he leads a breakaway party, Basque Solidarity, which aims to draw the nationalist vote from his former party, from the People's Unity coalition (HB) and the political wing of ETA, the Basque armed separatist organization.

Every seat in the 75-member Basque Parliament which he takes from the PNV will be sweet revenge. Public opinion polls show the former Chief Minister is personally the most popular candidate.

He is offering himself as head of a broadly based administration of rejuvenated Basque nationalism, opposing ETA's violence and "standing up" to the Madrid Government.

The certainty that neither the PNV nor the Socialists, who ranked second in the old Parliament, will obtain an

absolute majority raises the likelihood of the smaller parties helping form a coalition government after the election.

Señor Garaicoechea has said he could not rejoin his former colleagues, but has not ruled out teaming up with the Socialists. If the PNV should itself formed a coalition with the Socialists, he could look forward to becoming the principal Basque nationalist figure in the Opposition.

A second party, seeking a pivotal role is the Basque left (EE) led by Señor Juan María Bandres, a Basque member of the Madrid Parliament.

In Opposition in the Basque Parliament, his party has provided the best-argued critique of what has gone wrong with Basque home rule, blaming chiefly the sectarian intolerance and the failure of society to stand up to ETA's blackmail.

The party is strong among urban professionals, but is too intellectual for the rural areas where the "classic" nationalist formula of "all against Madrid" is a powerful rallying cry.

Señor Bandres, a potential ally for the Socialists and one who is also offering himself as a Basque chief minister, has forced Señor Jose Ardanza, the outgoing chief executive, to admit that his Government "blackened" the extent of the Basque economic decline in Brussels to obtain more EEC funds, while telling voters that things were improving on the economic front.

Señor Adolfo Suárez, the former Spanish Prime Minister who helped set up Basque home rule, is hoping that his Democratic Centre Party (CDS) will capture the pivotal role. But unlike Señor Bandres, his party is offering to help the PNV against the Socialists.

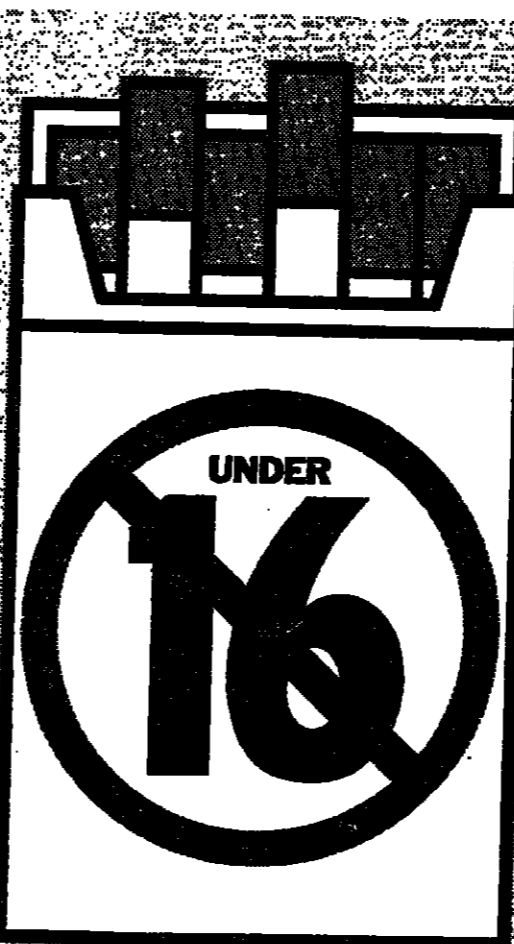
In an interview in Egin, the Basque extreme left-wing nationalist daily, "Txomin" Iurbe, the best known leader of ETA's military wing, has told its sympathizers to vote for the People's Unity Coalition.

The interview, given in Algeria, was the first proof of Madrid's suspicion that the terrorist, expelled from France last July, is in North Africa.

"Txomin" insisted that time was on the side of the radical independence formula and that ETA would continue to make the "Spanish forces of repression" its target.

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SUMMARY

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The MI5 book case: steps in a 'danse macabre' Judge loses patience with UK

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The judge in the MI5 spy book case served notice on the British Government in unequivocal terms yesterday that he has run out of patience with what he regards as legal manoeuvres designed to block production of confidential papers.

In a series of broadsides at Whitehall, Mr Justice Powell said that in applying for an injunction to suppress a book by Mr Peter Wright, the Thatcher administration had sought to avail itself of the jurisdiction of the Australian courts but was evidently unwilling to accept a ruling which it was favourable.

That was an attitude which no court could countenance, he said. The upshot of yesterday's proceedings is that the British Government must say this morning whether it will bow to Mr Justice Powell's demand that he be allowed a private inspection of the papers. If it does not, it must seek leave to appeal, having already failed once in a similar application.

cism stemmed from yet another change of British position revealed yesterday.

On Wednesday Mr Theo Simos, QC, indicated that the Government would accept an order by the judge if he insisted on seeing the papers - which deal with why no official action was taken to restrain recent books on MI5 and MI6. The British position then was that it would want to appeal only if the judge ruled that the papers should be shown to Mr Turnbull.

However, when the court reconvened yesterday, Mr Simos said that his instructions had changed, and that the Government might seek

I don't know from one day to the next what the British Government says

Mr Justice Powell

leave to appeal if the judge insisted on seeing the papers. Mr Justice Powell replied: "I hope you will forgive me if I appear to show a degree of pique, Mr Simos, but yours is the only head above the sandbags at the moment."

"I regret to say that I am placed in an intolerable situation. I am quite unable to predict from one day to the next what is the attitude of the plaintiff in this case, what submissions will be persevered with, and what course is to be taken."

"The situation I am placed in is, I believe, intolerable, and, more to the point, since I am paid to be here, if this is to be a continuing pattern, the defendants are to be placed in an intolerable situation, and one in which I feel they would be subject to grave injury."

The judge remarked that he had already delivered the opinion three times that the papers should be handed up. Only once had the Government tested that opinion before the Court of Appeal, and then unsuccessfully.

"I'm not joking when I say I don't know from one day to the next what the British Government says. It is merely another manifestation of what appears to me an attitude of the Government - namely that it is going to lay down the issues and ground rules."

Mr Turnbull, arguing the case against the British claim that the papers were subject to public-interest immunity, said that even from a bare affidavit which lists the documents it was evident that three of them were "whites in the bay".

One of the papers was relevant to the defence case that Chapman Pincher's book, *Their Trade is Treachery*, was published with official approval. Mr Turnbull said, and was sufficient to cast "enormous doubt" on the evidence of Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary.

Without describing the document, Mr Turnbull drew attention to the date.

"That document was created... at least two months before Sir Robert said the Government knew of the book. The sending organization is the one Sir Robert has difficulty identifying (MI6). Look at what was enclosed with that letter. What can that be but... I won't say."

The Government had resolutely denied any involvement in publication, and it was not hard to see why, Mr Turnbull said. It would be a mockery if it were shown that it was doing secretly under the counter what it would not allow over the counter.



Mr Peter Wright, author of the book, strolling with his wife in Sydney's Hyde Park after attending the Sydney court.

Kremlin to insist on apology for Kohl gaffe

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The diplomatic argument between Moscow and Bonn over recent remarks by the Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, intensified further yesterday with the publication in *Pravda* of one of the most bitterly worded attacks on a Western leader.

The unsigned editorial, entitled "A Dangerous Throwback", described Herr Kohl's recent comparison in a *Newsweek* interview of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev to Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi propagandist, as amazingly irresponsible.

The Communist Party paper continued: "In Bonn, they must always remember the pain, anger and disgust Soviet people feel in their hearts on hearing monstrous, immoral comparisons between our country and Nazi Germany. A heavy pall has been cast over Soviet-German relations and they have been poisoned, and that at a time when they had begun to acquire a new dynamism."

The attack, sanctioned at a high level in the Kremlin, followed less than 24 hours after Moscow's latest cancellation of an official contact with Bonn, this time by Mr Vladimir Tikhonov, the deputy Marine Minister, who gave no reason for scrapping his planned trip to sign agreements on river and sea navigation.

According to informed Soviet sources, the Kremlin is anxious to secure a full and formal apology from the German Chancellor, and is expected to keep up the diplomatic freeze. "There is no doubt of the bitterness felt here on this very sensitive issue", one West European diplomat observed.

Guns fall silent at last in Manila's communist battle

From David Watts, Manila

The guns will fall silent next month in the Philippines' 17-year-old guerrilla war against communist insurgents.

Two historic agreements signed yesterday open the way for what Filipinos hope will be an end of the struggle that has taken 2,000 lives since President Aquino came to power in February.

But even as representatives of the Government and of the National Democratic Front (NDF) were embracing in celebration, government forces were involved in what was reported to be a "massive" military operation against insurgents in Anorva province, 30 miles north of Manila.

Eleven government and communist troops were killed in fighting before the signing of the agreements, and a communist radio network headquarters responsible for the control of New People's Army fighters in central Luzon was also overrun after a 30-minute gun battle. The ceasefire itself does not become effective until December 10.

Many military officers remain cautious about the advisability of the ceasefire, but one senior western military attaché said that it could have some chance of success in the long term only if the Government finds the necessary political will to make social and economic improvements and to reform the corrupt Philippine constabulary to better the lot of Filipinos in the regions.

The two agreements cover the safety and the immunity of negotiators for the NDF, who will begin a discussion of a comprehensive peace agreement 30 days after the 60-day ceasefire takes effect.

The Government is also to open talks with the Muslim Liberation Movement, which is active in the southern Philippines.

The negotiations are to open in Saudi Arabia early next year.

After signing the agreements in front of hundreds of journalists, Mr Ramon Mitra, a leading government negotiator, said that opening peace negotiations with the NDF had been one of the most urgent priorities for Mrs Aquino's new Government, and that the signing of the documents four months after talks opened had been at "no

little political cost to her fledgling government". But he warned that the substantive negotiations would be even more difficult.

The immunity agreement guarantees that NDF negotiators will be free from surveillance during the negotiations in Manila and will have irrevocable immunity from search, arrest and prosecution.

The memorandum on the ceasefire defines the hostile acts that shall cease during its 60-day term. These include all conventional means of waging warfare, torture, disarming of NPA fighters and search, as well as coercion and threats.

In a clear hint of the threats to the agreement posed not only by some elements in the Army and police but also by private militias such as that of the former defence minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the Government pledges itself to disarm and prosecute armed groups, "goons" and death squads who try to disrupt it.

In an extraordinary agreement, both the Government and the NDF have promised jointly to protect their pact from such outside interference.

Mr Mitra revealed that the actual site of the signing and press conference was being protected by both the communists and the Government.

A special committee to oversee the ceasefire will be set up. It will be responsible for any breaches and for apportioning blame. But both government and NDF representatives affirmed that neither side had any interest in violating it.

Mr Ramon Mitra: jubilation over ceasefire agreement.

Rome tests motorists' restraint

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Rome is facing its severest test of civic maturity today, when motorists in the city's historic centre will not only be required to obey the rules - in itself a revolution for Rome - but also to make the sacrifice, where possible, of voluntarily doing without their cars for the day.

The idea of 24 hours with a minimum of private cars on the road came originally from the trade unions. It followed warnings that the level of pollution due to constant traffic jams in the city centre had reached alarming levels.

The judiciary, too, threatened to intervene. If these threats seemed exaggerated at the time, there can be no mistake now that the moment has arrived for urgent action.

The problem of traffic in the centre of Rome has been growing for years, but in the past few months a change in quality has occurred calling for emergency action.

The step taken by the unions won quick support from the municipal government. In view of the importance of the city authorities, whether Communist or Christian Democrat, to prevent the city centre's degeneration over the years, the support of public opinion for the unions' initiative was particularly important.

As a result, today will see a dress rehearsal for what could be a rational start to a remedy for the problems of the city centre. Unions and the city administration have agreed on a series of one-day "innovations."

There will be 130 extra buses on the city streets; schools will start an hour later, to avoid the rush hour; rubbish will be cleared during the night; 3,000 police will be on duty from 6.30 am; roadworks will be stopped; local railway services will be improved; and routes through the city centre will be limited to buses and taxis.

The only private cars allowed to enter will be those with up-to-date permits. And, as a special gesture, taxi drivers will be free to work when they wish instead of being bound by shifts.

"These are the steps which could take us," according to Signor Julio Carlo Argan, the art historian and former Mayor of Rome, "from the Inferno to Paradise."

Today's experiment should give the politicians some ideas on how to solve the city centre's problems.

Gibraltar anti-drug curfew

Gibraltar - In an attempt to cut drug and tobacco smuggling between Morocco and Spain, the British colony is to impose a curfew for high-powered launches starting on New Year's Day (Dominique Scartee writes).

Applicants for boat licences will require a clean record and launches will be forbidden from using Gibraltar waters after dark.

Court killings

Bangkok (Reuters) - A suspected murderer, Songkol Pansida, aged 30, shot his wife, Thipavara, with a pistol she handed him and seriously wounded his father before shooting himself dead in a courtroom.

Gold digger

Dhaka (Reuters) - An Australian, Darren Chambers, and two Thais, Ho Dornnade Panjart and Mrs Banjuta Sein, have been sentenced to life imprisonment after having smuggled gold worth \$40,000 (£28,000) into Bangladesh.

Killer fire

Paris (Reuters) - Four children were among six people, mainly immigrants, who died in a fire that swept through a building in an impoverished area of eastern Paris, according to firemen.

Bomb charge

Sydney (Reuters) - Levon Demirian, aged 34, an Armenian restaurateur, has been charged with planning the car-bomb explosion which killed the suspected bomber and damaged the Turkish consulate in Melbourne on Sunday.

Aided escape

Oslo - Norwegian police recaptured an unnamed drug-addict burglar who broke out of Gjoevik jail here by threatening prison wardens with a syringe full of his own Aids-infected blood.

Death plunge

Oviedo, Spain (Reuters) - Two miners fell 150 ft to their deaths after a pulley controlling the descent of their lift cage snapped at the state-owned Hunosa coalmine.

Peking poser

Peking (Reuters) - China's main newspaper, the *People's Daily*, accused organizers of a bodybuilding contest of trying to cash in on a recently approved parade of bikini-clad women.

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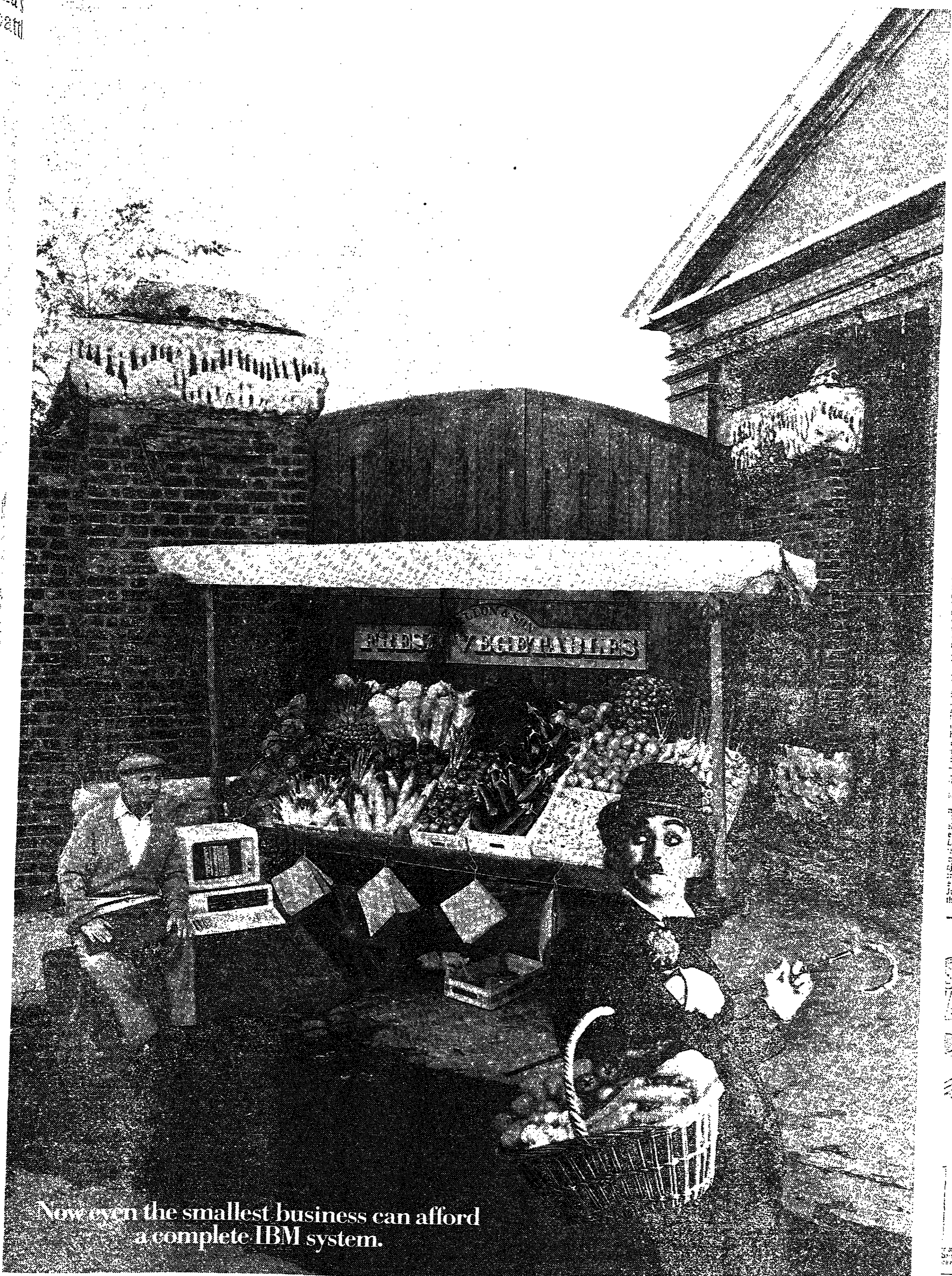


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THE ARTS 1

Sweet sound of a bebop swansong



An American jazzman in Paris: Dexter Gordon in 'Round Midnight'

Perhaps it is not surprising that a Frenchman should make one of the best tributes to American jazz. In the bebop Fifties - the era in which 'Round Midnight' is set - many great American jazz players went to Paris, delighted and amazed to find themselves revered as artists, rather than being taken for granted as ethnic showbiz, which is what tended to happen at home.

Bertrand Tavernier's film is the fictional portrait of one such musician - in part a composite of Lester Young and Bud Powell (to both of whom it is dedicated), as John Preston pointed out in his interview with Tavernier earlier in this week, as well as the saxophonist Dexter Gordon, who plays the leading role.

At the start of the film, in 1959, the protagonist is in New York, defeated and alcoholic. He returns after 15 years to Paris, where he is befriended by a long-time French fan, whose own life is in some disorder.

The two enter upon a curious mutual dependency, with the old musician good-humouredly accepting the nurse-maiding of the younger Frenchman, and responding by temporarily kicking drink and returning to composing. Eventually the Frenchman accompanies the musician to New York, where his protective sensitivity is contrasted, in some drily

comic scenes, with an American counterpart - a brash local promoter, played by the director Martin Scorsese.

Tavernier's romantic fascination with the world of jazz is reflected in Alexander Trauner's sets (the film was mostly shot in the studio); the crooked Parisian streets, familiar bars, and seedy hotel rooms lit by the inevitable lurid neon from the street outside.

Loosely but elegantly structured, moodily shot by Bruno de Keyser, and with well integrated supporting performances, this swan-song story is inevitably dominated by the central figure of Dexter Gordon. Tavernier chose a musician rather than an actor for the role because he recalled Scorsese's disappointment with Robert De Niro's patently unmusical performance in Scorsese's 'New York, New York'.

Even when he is not actually playing his virtuoso sax, Gordon is still every inch the musician; we believe his comments, sometimes wry, sometimes poetic-prattling, on his art, as well as his wistful declaration (actually a quotation from Bud Powell), "I am tired of everything, except music."

The character is seemingly not much different from the real-life Gordon, and Tavernier encouraged him to improvise his

CINEMA

'Round Midnight (15) Lumiere, Gate Notting Hill, Screen-on-the-Hill

Crossover Dreams (uncertified) ICA Cinema

Les Princes (15) Phoenix East Finchley

dialogue wherever possible. He is tall and lean and majestic, despite legs that appear somewhat beyond his control.

His eyes rarely settle on the person to whom he is talking, but focus vaguely, anxiously on the middle distance. His statements come slowly and reluctantly, in a throaty croak that, after decades of abuse, but when they come they are vivid and pregnant, and accompanied by strange, eloquent gestures of his big graceful hands. He is one of the most memorable, eccentric and charismatic characters lately seen on the screen.

Crossover Dreams, directed by a Cuban emigrant, Leon Ichaso, is also about a musician - a New York Puerto Rican salsa singer struggling to break out of the Latin club circuit into mainstream American pop music. The saga of his rise and fall is the time-honoured stuff of musical melodrama: suddenly launched into the big time, our hero recklessly abandons old friends, fiancée and discretion, to go for a fast life of big cars, flash clothes and orgies in the jazzclub. When the limelight fades, he finds himself alone, abandoned and shabby in the ultimate fall to the desperation of drug-running by a shamelessly sentimental dejection.

Ichaso quite successfully disguises the essential corn in a modern idiom, the kind of casual, off-the-cuff style that distinguishes the New York independent film from its West Coast counterpart. The most serious challenge to belief is that Ruben Blades, a prominent salsa singer and composer, who plays the lead, is far too good and assured a performer to be vulnerable to this kind of defeat.

Tony Gatlif, a tough-looking man around 40, was born and raised as a gypsy in Algeria, and claims to have lived by thieving before tumbling enthusiastically into theatre and film. His second

feature, Les Princes, which won the 1983 European Film Prize, is one of the cinema's most convincing impressions of the character and lives of urban gypsies.

Nara, the feckless, unappealing hero, lives with his ancient mother and daughter in a squat on the terraced verges of a French city. Their lives are inconsequential and violent, coloured by the permanent contradiction between the traditional tribal dominance of the men and the toughness and superior wisdom of the women of the group.

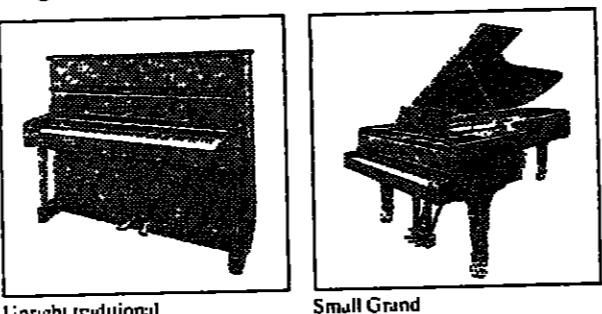
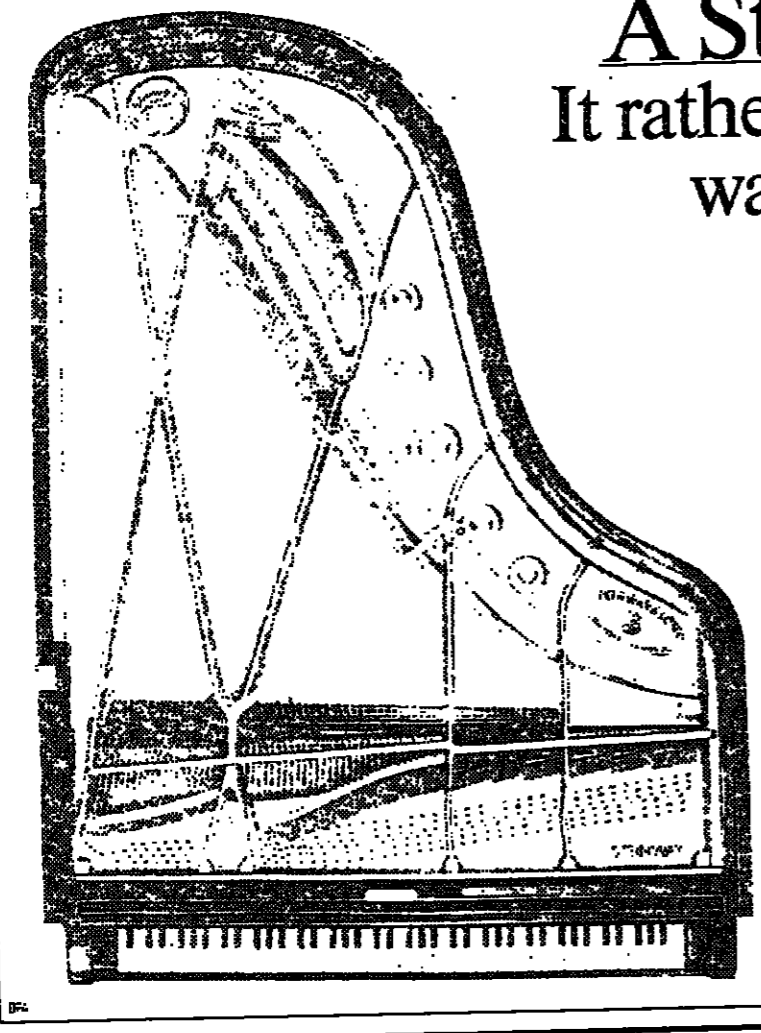
While Nara lurches from brawl to brawl and bizarre negotiations with the brothers of his callously cast-off wife, his daughter passes on to her old granny the lessons she has learned in school. When they are violently evicted from the squat, it is granny who leads them off on an abortive protest to demand their basic human rights.

Gerard Darmon plays Nara with a convincing blend of ferocity, guile and stubborn stupidity, and lucidly expresses the moral pride of the race when he protests, "We do not beg - we take."

But in the end the picture is stolen by Muse Galbraith, a genial classical actress and author, as the staid, old granny, striding around with her great skirts and broly.

David Robinson

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Jacks of all musical trades

ROCK

Simply Red Hammersmith Odeon

By gathering virtually the whole gamut of traditional black music styles into one smart pop package, the group which formed in Manchester in 1985 have come up with a product as popular as sliced bread, and of about the same anodyne texture when compared to the wholemeal source of their inspiration.

In performance, their strongest card was Mick Hucknall's distinctive white soul voice, and it was clear from the lack of interaction between the band members and the way that the stage was lit that he was the star of the show, despite the long tuft of hair which made him look like Bobby Charlton caught in a high wind.

But although he sang forcefully, and with particular grace during Talking Heads' 'Heaven', there was a lack of

emotional resonance in most of the material. Similarly, the band failed to gain adequate purchase or impose its own personality on the over-abundant range of styles, which included the jazz swing of 'Sad Old Lady', the heavy funk of 'No Direction', the gospel touches in 'The Right Thing', the soul-slashed disco sound of 'Red Box' and the sluggish reggae of 'Picture Book'. Such a cavalier approach to idioms, any one of which would take most artists a lifetime to master, resulted in an inevitably superficial if pleasant entertainment.

The look of unconcealed relief on the bassist Tony Bowers' face after the band had successfully negotiated a long free-time break near the end of 'Heaven' illustrated a lack of experience which was emphasized by their aspirations to musical sophistication, and it may be a little early to judge them too harshly. If nothing else 'Holding Back the Years' made them the first band in my experience to induce couples to waltz romantically in the Odeon's aisle.

David Sinclair

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THE ARTS 2

TELEVISION

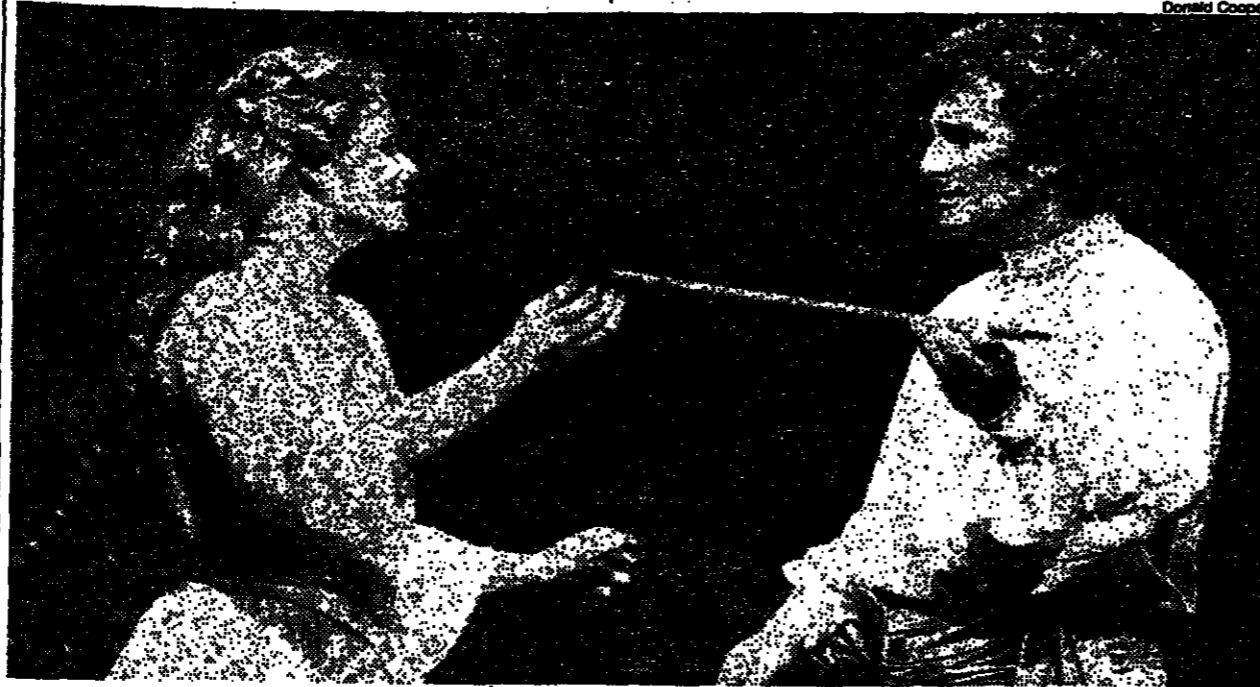
One of television's most insidious effects is to create expectations that a successful person in one field should be a great and interesting performer on screen.

"There's more to life than a game of cricket," he began, shaking his labrador locks. Once out of the dressing room, his role model appeared to be that man of meditative grace, Sylvester Stallone.

Botham's Fenelope, who spins away in Yorkshire during his annual ten months' absence, is a sweet girl called Kath. They met in the car park of Leicester cricket ground.

One of the boys is very much how Botham emerged; a likeable, restless, loose-tongued character who after a jar has occasionally indulged in marijuana and let slip a few home truths about "the gin-sipping students" in charge of our national game.

Nicholas Shakespeare



Paragon of a pair: Karita Mattila and Siegfried Jerusalem at Covent Garden

Unenchanted evening

OPERA

Die Zauberflöte Covent Garden

Will Tamino's flute ever bring magic to Covent Garden? The answer is probably not, while August Everding's hammed house pop-up production is still with us.

Wilfred Judd, staging the production this time round, does what he can to activate its confused extravaganza of purely visual ideas - even to the extent of falling back on an arm-in-arm, one-step-forward, one-step-back routine when uncertain quite what to do next.

Peter Schneider from Vienna is the chosen man this time, and he is making his London debut here. For 20 years he has been working his way through the German and Austrian opera houses, and has spent time - perhaps, under the circumstances, rather too much time - with Wagner at Bayreuth.

The pity of it is that Covent Garden has at last assembled an entirely tempting cast. When Tamino and Pamina walk off into the sunrise, we know we have both seen and heard a near-paragon of a pair.

about as much as one could wish for: the performance itself has a little further to go in pursuit of perfection. Given the clipped numbness of the orchestral accompaniment, it may be asking too much to expect truly lyrical phrasing of the top of the voice does take the strain and his wailing is as yet brusque.

Her mother has a harder time of it. The Queen of the Night marks a nervous, lustreless Royal Opera debut for Sally Wolf, and Peter Haase's debut as Monostatos is likewise only adequate. Jonathan Summers returns as an irresistibly spirited Papageno, and Jan-Hendrik Rootering as a young, likeable Sarastro, in a world in which that is just about all he can be expected to be.

Hilary Finch

RECITAL

Mikhail Pletnev Wigmore Hall

As a pianist in the old romantic mould, Mikhail Pletnev is of a kind to arouse partisan feelings according to one's own ideas of style and interpretation. So it was that at a sold-out Wigmore Hall last night on Wednesday the Soviet virtuoso delighted me most at the beginning and end of his programme, the last item his own transcription of seven numbers from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.

With only one of them overlapping the familiar orchestral suite - the Sugarplum Fairy even more crystallized than usual in keyboard tone - these benefited from the essentially decorative approach the pianist brought to them, and could well have been extended into more of the neglected music from the ballet's first act.

As noted on this page after his unscheduled appearance on the South Bank last Monday, Pletnev has an imposing technique which also enriched the Salieri Variations by Beethoven and could well make them more popular. They do not just play with a theme (from Salieri's opera, Falstaff) but invest it with varied character and content, for which this playing was more than a match.

Noël Goodwin

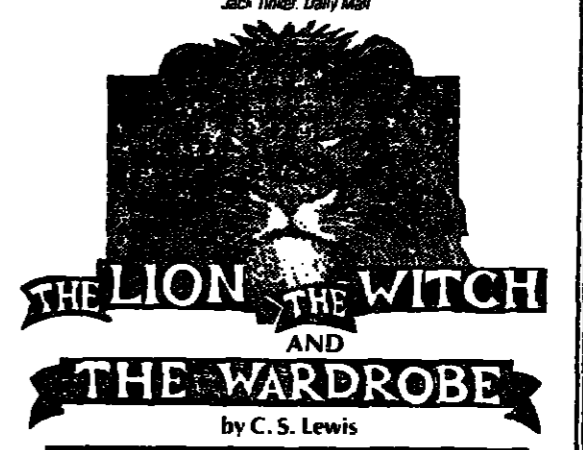
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Tonal truths

CONCERT

RLPO/Hickox Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool

Everyone is entitled to an opinion, but I cannot think that the man who at the end of the world premiere of Robert Simpson's Variations on a Theme of Carl Nielsen loudly accused the work of being pretentious rubbish got it right.

The influences upon it are the inevitable ones. There is much of Nielsen himself in the tonal design, the conflicting assertions of different tonal centres, and in its constantly elusive, ever-changing moods.

Stephen Pettitt

THEATRE

Selling The Sizzle Hampstead

The setting of Peter Gibbs's play is the showroom of a novelty goods warehouse, and it arouses feelings of awe for the designer, Sue Plummer, who has managed to amass this glittering heap of junk.

However, to the proprietor, it is anything but junk. For 30 years Desmond has made a good living by selling light-up yo-yos and barometers set in the bellies of wooden bassett hounds, well aware that he is marketing dreams. He operates on the same principle as Miller's Willie Loman.

It is through her that Desmond acquires a new salesman. A shy young metallurgist who comes in out of the rain and stays on to be initiated into the trade. Malcolm proves a star recruit. He acquires masterful self-confidence, opens up long dead accounts, and closes every sale - with one exception: he cannot sell himself to Stephanie. And her marriage to another torpedoes his order book and brings a brutal day of reckoning with the boss.

Sexual passion is beyond the play's comic range, and it becomes rather clumsy in spite of Caroline Bliss's cool performance. On its main territory the play supplies material for two glorious high-farce performances from Dinsdale Landen and David Threlfall.

Threlfall's Malcolm matches his Leslie Titmouse in his unscrupulous ascent to the top of the greasy pole. Mr Landen, alternately at death's door and emerging buoyantly in white tails and topper to boost sales morale, puts his personal stamp on Desmond as a wreck who will outlive everyone in sight. The part might have been written for him.

Together, they present a remarkable father and son routine, with the initially vengeful Desmond settling back into awed amazement at his protégé's prowess; and Malcolm, in increasingly resplendent suits, employing his newly-won sales techniques on his benefactor.

In the end it is Threlfall who goes berserk, pushing comedy to the very brink, and Landen who phlegmatically picks up the pieces and arranges the next week's sales schedule. Ann Beach, as his wife, completes the crack casting of Robert Cretwyn's production.

Irving Wardle

WHAT THIS MAN DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THE SICILIAN 1859 BOMBA HEAD COULD BE WRITTEN ON THE BACK OF ONE.

The man in question is David Boyd, who runs the postage stamp department at Phillips.

The head in question belongs to King Ferdinand II, who used to run Sicily.

Ferdinand was not one of Europe's more shy and retiring monarchs.

His idea of a good time was to hound his subjects with shellfire whenever the fancy took him, hence his nickname of "Bomba."

In 1859 he arranged a competition to select a decorous design for Sicily's first set of stamps.

The entry of one Tommaso Aloysio Juvaro was deemed the winner, possibly because he chose to depict the king's head in noble profile.

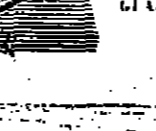
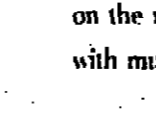
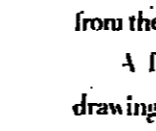
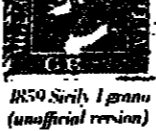
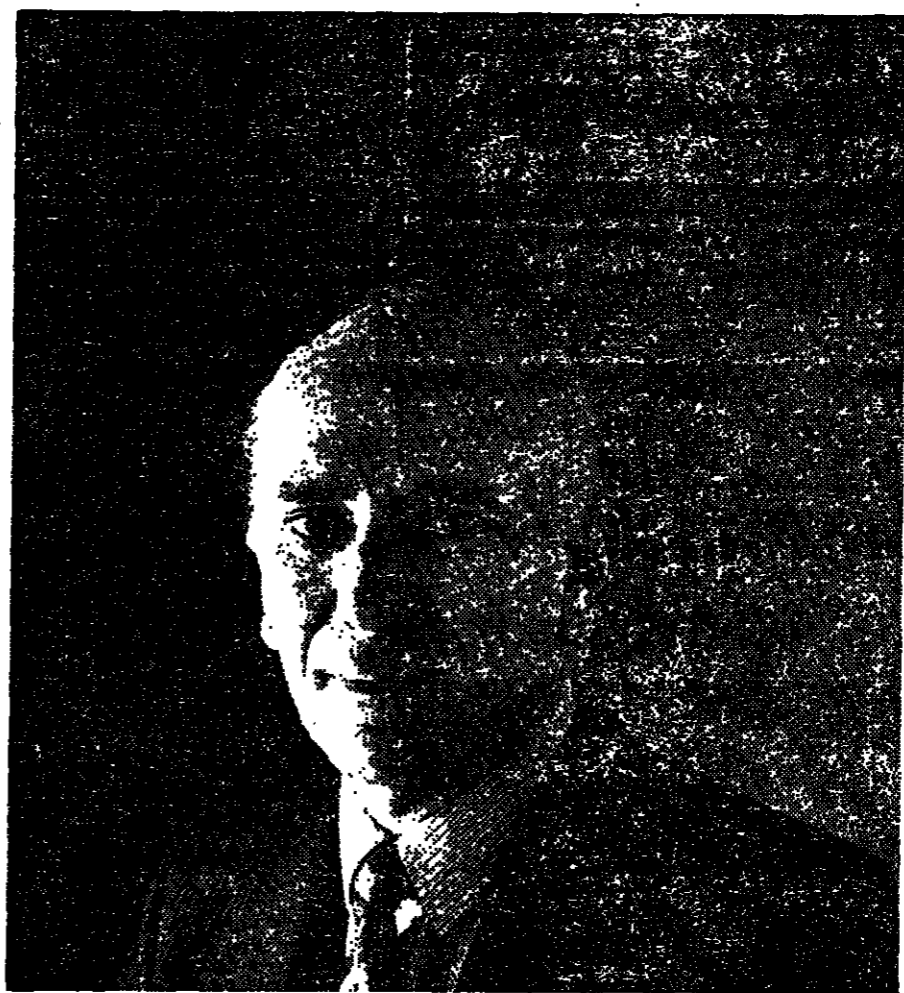
However, a courtier pointed out to Ferdinand that splendid though the new stamps looked when mint, it would be little short of treasonous to ink over the royal image with a cancellation mark.

Ferdinand agreed, and Ferdinand II but with much delight by David Boyd. The reason being that the 1859 Sicilian issue is one of the very few stamps that is worth more, not less, when defaced.

The story of the Bomba Heads is typical of the depth of knowledge filed away in the heads of David Boyd and his colleagues.

There are more than one-hundred-and-twenty Phillips specialists. They are all leading authorities in every aspect of art and antiques from paintings to porcelain, sapphires to side-boards.

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SPECTRUM

Can wheat fields be turned into woods?



Part 5: A fallow future for Europe?

is wide disagreement, however, about the remedy. Should subsidies be reduced? Should farmers, as Mrs Thatcher believes, be paid to take land out of production — or turn it, perhaps, into forestry? Concluding our series, we look at the answers on offer

Everyone now agrees that the Common Agricultural Policy is a sick animal. By subsidizing wheat, beef and milk that no one wants, it is heading towards bankruptcy. There



'If this was a firm it would be illegal'

The EEC has been accused of false accounting by Peter Price, the Conservative Euro spokesman on the budget, and Conservative MEP for London South-East. Mr Price, a lawyer who has investigated EEC finances in depth for the Court of Auditors and the European Parliament, says EEC officials are operating a system under which the Community spends far more on storage than the real value of the stocks being stored.

We are producing too much wheat at the wrong price, Professor Colin Spedding agrees. "But if we could produce it much more cheaply, which is not impossible, it would find industrial uses. We are producing more than we can sell, not necessarily more than we need."

Radical words, compared with those of other experts on the Common Agricultural Policy, expected by some to overshoot its budget by some £2 billion next year. Most agree that the CAP must be reformed. As Roy Jenkins said this week: "In the past it ought to have been done, in the recent past it was essential to do it — but the situation is now moving into a position where it is impossible not to do it."

But do what? While politicians and farmers in Brussels argue over intervention prices and variable premiums, Professor Spedding, director of the Centre for Agricultural Strategy at Reading University, looks to the long-term. The present economic framework will not always remain the same, he points out. A drastic fall in land prices, for instance, could upset calculations. The first country to subsidize crop production for industrial use (probably France) stands to gain because the new processing plants will be built there.

He does not accept that technology will be applied just because it is there. "We can grow pineapples in Aberdeen under glass but we don't because it's not economic. Dairy farmers used to use a lot of concentrate feeds for cattle, but when the milk quotas began they cut down because they couldn't afford them."

"Some technology — nitrogen fertilizers, for example — will be applied, because it increases profitability. The more you get out of a field, the more money you

make. But then there is the possibility of major disease in crops. It is all very well saying that we can wipe them out with chemicals, but we might not be allowed to use them. Attitudes have changed since Chernobyl. A large wheat growing area was put out of action and, if the wind had changed, you know what might have happened?"

Spedding suggests that the first step towards CAP reform may be a disguised reduction in prices through tinkering with the intervention system. If that fails, there may be further artificial production restraints, such as quotas.

"Moving on, we can assume either that a lot of land will come out of agriculture because it is no longer needed, or that we will move to less intensive systems." He sees no reason why organic farming should not continue to grow.

If land is taken out of production — and Dr Sicco Mansholt, original architect of the CAP, thinks as much as 20 per cent may have to go — the price of such land will fall drastically. This may give young people the chance to buy it and farm it less intensively, Professor Spedding says.

The price of timber, meanwhile, will rise. "I am interested in what I call agro-forestry enterprises. We might try mixing sheep with trees for example. Young trees can now be protected with plastic sheaths, and the sheep would provide an income in the early years.

"We should also be looking at the idea of mixing trees with free range poultry, which would involve no risk to the young trees, while the birds would eat pests and weeds. But no one has tried it yet, so far as I know. So why not try farmers to experiment with alternatives?"

Spedding thinks that the problem of hunger in the Third World is irrelevant to that of surpluses in developed countries. "People go hungry not because they can't produce food but because of poverty, which means they can't buy it. If you go to any country in Africa and stay in a big hotel, you can get all the food you want."

THE POLITICIANS



For the Conservatives, Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, has been advocating a package of measures to reduce surpluses, control spending, and introduce market discipline without discriminating against the relatively efficient British farmer.

The "senior partner" in this package would be a tough price policy, with cuts rather than mere freezes in commodity support prices. Mr Jopling broadly supports EEC proposals to support lower quality grain at lower prices and to adapt intervention prices to reflect more closely market needs, and has called for studies into a possible EEC "set-aside" scheme to encourage marginal producers to take land out of cereal production.

Mr Jopling is opposed to any system of quotas, which "sensitise" production patterns, and to the co-responsibility levy, a Europe-wide tax to fund the disposal of surpluses, which is hard on British farmers and "irrelevant to the underlying problem of achieving a more sensible market balance."

Roy Jenkins, former SDP leader and the only Briton to have headed the bureaucracy of the European Community, fears today that if its members do not take concerted action to reform the CAP, states will begin to impose their own separate solutions, threatening the very survival of the Community.

"If the Common Market in agriculture broke up, some people wonder whether the industrial market could survive," he says. "The system of taking land out of cultivation may well be the sensible way to go, but I'm not absolutely clear how it's going to avoid all the difficulties associated with production quotas, or with a

THE FARMERS

freeze in prices — or even a reduction. He does not despair, however, believing that political self-preservation is likely to force EEC members to take concerted action before long.

The Alliance's official policy would be to underwrite family farm incomes through price support for pre-set quantities of production, but extra production would be sold at market prices.

This, it claims, would protect small farmers while limiting the cost of CAP support and reducing surpluses. Each country would be given production quantities for each commodity, but governments would be able to distribute allocations as they saw fit.

The Alliance would review the system of intervention buying, but believes in the need to maintain a floor for commodity prices.

The Labour Party has no official policy on the CAP, but its agriculture spokesman, Brynnoor John, said last month that "there is no miracle cure. A combination of measures will be needed, even where one plays the central role."

That central measure would be the introduction of national quotas for all major agricultural commodities, with detailed implementation of those quotas within each country left to the national governments to decide.

Production, he said, needs to be curtailed "to an amount which represents the level of consumption plus a small safety margin".

Mr John is opposed to restraint through the price mechanism — which he fears would merely drive up volumes to co-responsibility levies to land "set-aside" — a "short-term palliative", and to a tax on nitrogen. He is in favour of a woodland scheme whereby the state would pay a farmer an annual income for each hectare on which trees were planted, and would receive a proportion of the proceeds when the trees were felled.

THE COMMISSIONER

As EEC Commissioner for Agriculture, Frans Andriessen is perhaps the most important figure pressing for reform. "We should have adapted the CAP the moment we reached self-sufficiency," he says. "We can no longer continue to guarantee unlimited quantities. Intervention must return to its original role — as a safety net, not a standard outlet."

Among the reforms proposed by a Commission Green Paper a year ago are a restrictive pricing policy; early retirement for farmers; assisting farmers in less favoured areas; compensating farmers who maintain the environment and set aside land; and afforestation of land formerly used for crops.

For the dairy sector the Commission has an emergency plan: discontinuing inter-regional compensation in milk quotas; stopping milk powder intervention in winter; ending intervention purchases of butter; and the direct disposal of fresh butter, especially to the needy.

All this, Andriessen says, is part of a campaign and must be followed by more comprehensive measures. "Europe is not alone in the agricultural crisis. It is a world phenomenon. National farm policies and international trade must be co-ordinated."

"We can set aside land — we have already authorized subsidies in West Germany for an experiment to take land out of production. But if you make it compulsory you will meet enormous resistance and you run the risk of bureaucratizing agriculture even more. We risk curing the symptoms, not the disease."

THE FARMERS

There are glimmers of a way out of this head-on clash between the Commission and the farmers. Sir Richard Butler, who runs a farm in Essex, is also head of Copa, the organization which represents European farmers throughout the EEC. Farmers were prepared to adapt to a reformed CAP, he said recently, but on "certain conditions". The maintenance of farmers' incomes remained a top priority "for the sake both of the rural community and the Common Market itself."

"One respects the commission's desire to contain the budget," he said, "but it is difficult to see how we move from where we are now to a better balance of supply and demand unless we have more money to do so."

In this he agrees with two of the sternest opponents of reform — Ignaz Kiechle, West German agriculture minister and a former dairy farmer, and Francois Gallissaud, French agriculture minister, and himself a farmer. Both want greater national aid for farmers' incomes; both oppose any reduction in prices for farm products.

He also agrees that new technologies such as bio-ethanol and vegetable fibre production are feasible, provided they have "a sound economic base" — another code for maintained incomes.

The British National Farmers' Union favours "set-aside" — incentives to farmers to keep land fallow but says it would have to apply across the board, and the land could not be used for growing other crops such as vegetables, which would simply cause a huge glut on the market.

"Jopling's idea is that, if you let market forces take command, prices will fall automatically," says Ian Gardner, director of the NFU's commodity policy co-ordination division. "I'm sure he's right, and that is precisely what we are afraid of. It would ruin tens of thousands of farmers."

According to the Commission, the EEC is spending some £2.8 billion on storage, as part of a package of farm support measures costing about £8.5 billion. "It worth spending sums of this order on stocks which are worth less than the storage charges?" Mr Price asks.

The Commission's book value for the stocks is £8.5 billion (the cost of buying them into intervention); but the Commission admits that the stocks are probably resalable for far less, perhaps at half the book value.

Mr Price's investigations show that the real book value of the stocks is more like £2 billion. "If we are spending £2.8 billion to store stocks which are worth £2 billion, clearly anyone involved should be certified," Mr Price remarks.

"The EEC has never shown in its balance sheets the contingent liability of disposing of farm stocks," Mr Price says. "Any commercial firm would have to do so. A private company would be required to depreciate the value of stocks because they are assets. If you knowingly publish balance sheets which show certain assets at a certain value, when you know their true value is half or even less than half the value shown, then you are in trouble with the law."

SATURDAY - Portfolio Gold - £16,000 to be won. Winter's tales. Pantomime show time. Guide to beauties and best beasts. Crowned heads of tragedy. King Lear comes to the National.

A new hat for the Klan. With a new chief who is a Yankee and a Catholic, the Klux Klan is trying to change its spots. James Farrands, Imperial Wizard: "A political programme".

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1118. ACROSS: 1 Round stone (6), 4 Bed cushion (6), 7 Algerian navy centre (4), 8 Missile from (8), 11 Locally irrelevant (7), 11 Edge (5), 12 Combat weariness (6,7), 15 Minimum (5), 16 Take air (7), 20 Furniture beetle (6), 21 Nursery rhyme collector (4), 22 Roof beam (6), 23 Spout (6). DOWN: 1 Guiding saying (7), 2 Plait (5), 3 Boredom (5), 4 Smart (4), 5 Observing (7), 6 Small-checked mollusc (5), 10 Defraud (5), 11 Swim (5), 13 Rush away (4,3), 14 Biblical interpreter (7), 15 Further down (5), 17 Vertical type (3), 18 Glassy gemstone (5), 19 Hard up (4).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Built-in curbs on prison reform

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust

Sir, If politicians are to bring their thinking to bear upon the prisons - as you counsel in your leader today (November 25) - the first question to pose is whether the rising prison population is, in your words, a "severe restraint" upon prison policy or an integral part of that policy.

Successive governments have predicated their expenditure plans upon a rise in the number of prisoners. Planning a reduction in the number of prisoners, say to the EEC average, would introduce at a stroke the greater clarity which you seek about who should be sent to prison, what for, and for how long.

Airborne warning

From the Managing Director of GEC Avionics Limited

Sir, The assertion made by Mr Pamplin, of Westinghouse (November 25), that the Boeing gives earlier warning of attack than Britain's AEW-Nimrod is misleading. The Minister of State for Defence Procurement, Lord Trefgarne, has publicly stated the expectation of his department that "both solutions have the potential to meet our requirements".

The task is to choose the system which does so in the most cost-effective way. By this criterion, the choice will certainly fall on AEW-Nimrod, as is so clearly brought out in Sir Woodrow Wyatt's article (November 15).

Thin blue line

From Mr Allen Chubb

Sir, The letter today (November 19) from the Chief Commandant of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary rightly draws attention to the contribution which special constables make to policing in London. How much greater their contribution would be if they were used more intelligently and given more encouragement. Too often, they are a wasted resource.

Ski development

From the Chairman of the Scottish National Ski Council

Sir, I am writing in support of Ronald Faux's article (November 19, some editions) on ski development at Fort William. At peak times the Scottish ski resorts have reached saturation point. Access roads are congested, car parks are overflowing, and participants must queue to ski. In spite of these disincentives the number of people who ski in Scotland is increasing significantly each year.

Lost for words

From Mr Richard J. Hildesley

Sir, I was interested to read Mr Richard Lewis's letter (November 20) expressing nostalgic concern over the possible drying up of the typing pool. Few of those who felt drowned by such impersonal arrangements would, I suspect, mourn their passing.

Colouring films

From Mr Brian R. Pow

Sir, Further to David Robinson's article on the "colorization" of old movies (November 24), I suggest that every film which has been treated this way be prefaced with the statement: "This film has been artificially coloured. It was originally shot in black and white." At least the maker's original intentions would be remembered.

Steel price stability

From Mr James Campbell

Sir, Your report (November 13) on the price of British Steel, achieving good results in any enterprise which has received untold volumes of free capital from taxpayers and which operates within a market-manipulating cartel should be easy. Protection from competitive import penetration must also help.

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Radio hazard on the motorway

From Mrs A. Campbell Jensen

Sir, I often have to drive long distances, cross-country, late at night. During recent months I have been subject to several breakdowns, in spite of taking every precaution to keep my car in good running order.

With ever-increasing incidents of rape, and in view of police and judicial advice that women should not walk alone in the dark, I have decided that it would make sense to have a telephone installed in my car.

The attraction of this idea was slightly shaken on a motorway recently when I saw a car closing upon me from behind at alarming speed. Only when I flashed my rear fog-lights did the driver appear to realise that he was on a collision course.

Neglected exam?

From the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Strathclyde

Sir, Well done, Mr Ferrar (November 20). Almost all sensible men and women appreciate the foolishness of early specialisation in schools but the new AS examination will not have an easy time, if only because the vested interests in the present arrangements are so powerful.

The Queen's victim

From Mr J. A. Stanley

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Nicolas Bellord (November 20), asks whether the African Queen's victim, the Gotzen (now Liemba), is still afloat.

No laughing matter

From Professor Emeritus A. R. Kiralfy

Sir, Your feature article (November 22) on the subject of the Crystal Palace fire 50 years ago should really discredit the claim of the Press to sit in judgment on politicians and others.

Lost in the post

From Dr S. Roy-Chowdhury

Sir, I am republican coming to the United Kingdom from the front door, albeit through the actions of Government agencies.

Compulsive viewing?

From Miss Lynette Fenley

Sir, I am perhaps more fortunate than Mr Michael Hopkins (November 24). I have never owned a television set, and "No television" written across the enquiry form has been sufficient at intervals over the last ten years to keep the licensing authorities at bay.

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ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 28 1840

Acre, the Syrian port heroically defended by Sir Sidney Smith against the French in the Napoleonic wars, was again under attack, this time from a predominantly British Allied fleet. The capture of the city drove out the Egyptians who, under Ibrahim Pasha, had occupied it since 1832 and restored it to the Turks.

THE CAPTURE OF ST JEAN D'ACRE

(From the Malta Times.)

MALTA, Nov. 15, 1840

The Phoenix steam-frigate arrived on Thursday evening last, bringing the momentous intelligence of the capture of St Jean d'Acre - the far-famed fortress of the Levant - by the combined fleets of the Allies. The action is the most splendid of all the recent naval achievements in these seas, demonstrating to the staggering faith of the politicians of Europe that nothing can withstand the British genius and valour. Vainly have the French incendiaries defied the British naval forces to take the "great fort of the East"; for, whilst they pour out their bitter invectives, and sing their savage war-whoop of nationality, a council of war is formed to attack these redoubts. It is decided, in a moment, and in another St Jean d'Acre is a heap of smoking ruins, dazed with the profuse blood of the enemy!

We cannot pass by the splendid action of Admiral Stopford - an action which has covered the Admiral with immortal honour. It was Admiral Sir Robert Stopford who left his flagship for the Phoenix - who directed the attack - who fired the first shot upon the devoted fortress, who reared the formidable batteries, and under the bristling cannon (the labours and accumulations of ages) stood up with coolness, daring, unshaken courage, and commanded the whole operation...

The result of this grand action is 3,000 prisoners, an immense quantity of war-like stores, accumulated for years in this celebrated fortress, and possession of the entire coast of Syria...

We refer our readers for the details of this splendid achievement to our correspondents' communications from the scene of action. At a quarter past two o'clock the batteries to the south opened on the Castor, as he most gallantly, and to the admiration of the whole fleet, took up her station within about 700 yards of the batteries. At 25 minutes past four, the action being at its height, a terrific explosion took place in the town, which for a time wholly concealed it and the southern division from view; its appearance was truly awful, and I can compare it to nothing but as if a huge yew tree had suddenly been conjured up from the devoted town - it being for many minutes a mighty pall over those hundreds it had hurled into eternity, and then slowly, owing to the lightness of the wind, drifted to the southward.

It proved to be the explosion of the principal magazine of the place, one-third of which it has destroyed, and, from a whole regiment having been quartered in a klan immediately adjoining, it is supposed from 1,500 to 1,700 soldiers perished in the ruins, besides a great number of horses, bullocks, and donkeys. After this fearful event the fire from the southern batteries nearly ceased, but the western one still kept it up with animation, and was answered broadcast with redoubled vigour and tremendous effect. Shortly before 5 the Admiral made the signal to discontinue the engagement...

I am glad to be able to tell him that this historic vessel was still making regular trips round the Tanganyika when I visited Ujiji (Kigoma) in July, 1985, and I imagine she will continue for many years yet. Yours sincerely, JOHN SANKEY (High Commissioner, Tanzania, 1982-85), United Kingdom Mission, 37-39 rue de Vermont, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, November 20.

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Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, containing various text and graphics.

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Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1286.0 (-0.3) FT-SE 100 1632.5 (-0.5) Bargains 28696 (25721) USM (Datastream) 129.19 (-0.57) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4295 (-0.0020) W German mark 2.8433 (-0.0061) Trade-weighted 68.1 (-0.1)

Battle for AE heads for a close finish

The bitter struggle for control of AE looked like drawing to a nail-biting climax last night after Turner & Newall took its stake to almost 40 per cent.

No referrals

The proposed acquisitions by Waterford Glass of Wedgwood, BPC of Providence Glass and BPC of the Webb Co. will not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Fuelling the share deals

In tomorrow's Family Money, how the banks are using the British Gas bonanza to spruce up their share dealing services; the investment potential of classic cars and the merits of putting money into enterprise zone property.

Profit jumps

Operating profit at International Leisure group jumped to £21.5 million in the six months to September, compared with £8.8 million last year (before profits on aircraft sales). The dividend was increased by 10 per cent to 2.2p.

BPB up 50%

BPB Industries, the only British manufacturer of plasterboard, yesterday announced pretax profits for the six months to the end of September 1986 up 50 per cent to £69.3 million. Turnover rose from £299.4 million to £367 million. An interim dividend of 4.5p was declared.

Early birds

Twelve firms have registered with the Stock Exchange as market-makers in the shares of British Gas. The deadline by which firms must register in time for the first dealings in British Gas is December 5.

Wall Street 22 Foreign Exch 24 Stock Market 23 Traded Opts 24 Comment 25 Unit Prices 25 FT. Cites 24 USM Prices 26 Money Markets 24

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS New York Dow Jones 1916.76 (+4.48) Tokyo Nikkei Dow 17883.86 (+153.75) Hang Seng 2354.33 (-23.28) Amstar/Gen 294.2 (+0.9) Sydney AO 1370.8 (+7.6) Frankfurt Commerzbank 2072.3 (+14.9) Brussels General 3821.92 (-64.09) Paris CAC 3944 (+1.1) Zurich S&K Gen 557.30 (+0.5) London FT. A 61.77 (+0.89) FT. Cites Page 25

Exchange curbs electronic chaos

Rogue prices to be muzzled

By Richard Lander The Stock Exchange, faced with a second consecutive day of "rogue" closing prices on its SEAQ electronic market system, plans to restrict the size of price changes that market-makers can put on their screens.

Share prices

Today's share prices in The Times on page 25 are taken as usual from Stock Exchange quotations at 5 pm yesterday. However, the price change column reflects movements from 4 pm on Wednesday, after which time accuracy could not be guaranteed.

Ford dealer faces £10m NZ bid

By Lawrence Lever A New Zealand businessman, Mr Colin Giltrap, has launched a hostile £10 million bid for Frank G Gates, the Ford main dealer.

Carclo wins

Carclo has declared its offer for Jonas Woodhead unconditional as to acceptances after receiving acceptances for 57.7 per cent of the shares. The cash alternative has been taken for 29.3 per cent and is now closed.

£9m purchase

Hazlewood Foods has exchanged contracts for the acquisition of Van Heyningen Brothers, tomato growers and packers, for £9 million.

Don't panic, CBI tells boardrooms

Turned to Royal jelly

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent Britain's senior company directors may be granite-hard in the face of takeover bids or when grappling with competitors, but they turn to jelly when a Royal visit is in the offing.

Khoo resigns from Standard

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puan, the Singapore businessman whose family has run into trouble over dealings with the National Bank of Brunei, has resigned as a director of Standard Chartered Bank.



Mercury disappoints

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent Mercury International Group, one of the largest of the new British financial conglomerates, caused disappointment yesterday with worse-than-expected interim results.

Dawson profits surprise

By Alexandra Jackson Shares in Dawson International, known for its Pringle and Brenmar high-quality knitwear, jumped 12p yesterday to 228p on the publication of better-than-expected interim results.

Hanson to buy Kaiser Cement

By John Bell, City Editor Sir Gordon White, who runs the US arm of Hanson Trust, is spending a little loose change. His Hanson Industries is making an agreed \$200 million (£142.8m) purchase of Kaiser Cement, the fifth largest cement producer in the US and the biggest in California.

Courts 'cannot act with speed of market'

The City Takeover Panel yesterday defended its right to operate as the City's self-regulatory body without the interference of the courts.

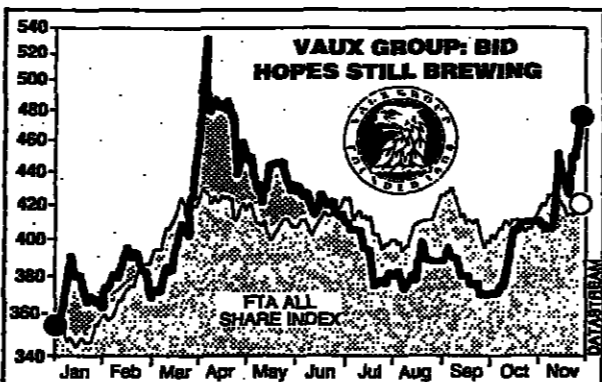
IG INDEX advertisement: TEL SID HE MIGHT DO BETTER ON TRADED OPTIONS WITH I.G. INDEX. One of our clients recently made 100% Profit in just 21 days on a Traded Option on Wall Street...

Vertical text on the right edge: Folio... Beer's... astic... in... mechanical... the £2,000... Portfolio Gold... sterdard to good... te my gramo... my donation... all appeal and... next year... Mir... of Allestree... ed 51, who has... Gold since it... times, said that... iave his lack... fantastic. It is... cards can be... iding a stam... envelope to:

STOCK MARKET REPORT

MEPC shares advance 7.5p after further bid speculation

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard
MEPC, Britain's second biggest property group, was again the centre of intense bid speculation yesterday after a late flurry of activity after hours.



Glaxo 10p to 91.2p after a line of 657,000 shares went through the market at 91.0p. Cable & Wireless 4p to 32.6p, and Hawker Siddeley 3p to 43.8p.

attracted to the brewing area because they tendered unsuccessfully for Courage, and they could certainly afford it. As well as its brewing activities, Vaux owns the 32-strong chain of Swallow hotels, predominantly in the North-east, but with one hotel in London.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet
The Mercury drops to a disturbing level

Cassandras of the Big Bang are gloating. First results from Mercury International Group since the merger of its main component parts last April are unlikely to spread happiness among those with a financial interest in the City's deregulated securities markets.

Moves at the Noble House

The relationship of Jardine Matheson with Hong Kong has been as emotionally close over the years as might be expected of any group which has had such a formative influence on an entire, thriving economy.

Table with columns for '1986 High Low Company', 'Price Bid Offer', 'Change', 'Volume', 'P/E', and '1985 High Low Company', 'Price Bid Offer', 'Change', 'Volume', 'P/E'.

Storm over Electra fund management

By Lawrence Lever
A bitter dispute has broken out at Electra Investment Trust over the management of one of its venture capital funds.

Lead and zinc prices 'to slow'

By Richard Lander
The sharp advances seen in zinc and lead prices on the London Metal Exchange (LME) this year are unlikely to be repeated in 1987, according to Shearson Lehman Brothers, the metal trading firm.

Oxford team wins £25,000 prize for super magnets

Britain's highest award for innovative engineering and technology, the £25,000-McRobert Award, was presented in London yesterday, by the Duke of Edinburgh to three men from the Oxford Instruments Group.

Company wins China deals

Black Clawson International, the Newport, Gwent, paper machinery manufacturer, has signed three contracts worth £3 million with China.

Advertisement for 'The Varsity Match' between Oxford and Cambridge at Twickenham, December 9 at 2.00 pm. Includes text 'The Bowring Bowl. Which way on December 9?' and 'Sponsored by Bowring'.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Folio let-leer's astic' and 'er of ives'.

سكنا من الامل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end December 5. Contango day December 8. Settlement day December 15.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated.

Table with 3 columns: No., Company, and Gain or Loss. Lists various companies and their share price changes.

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with 7 columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Sunday. For tracking weekly dividends.

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

Table listing various British funds with their prices and performance metrics.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing funds with a 5-15 year track record.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing funds with over 15 years of track record.

UNDATED

Table listing undated funds.

INDEX-LINKED

Table listing index-linked funds.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table listing bank discount rates for various banks.

BREWERIES

Table listing brewery companies and their stock prices.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Table listing building and road construction companies.

FINANCE AND LAND

Table listing finance and land-related companies.

FOODS

Table listing food and beverage companies.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table listing chemical and plastic companies.

CINEMAS AND TV

Table listing cinema and television companies.

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table listing drapery and retail store companies.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table listing industrial companies (A-D).

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Table listing industrial companies (E-K).

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Table listing industrial companies (L-R).

ELECTRICALS

Table listing electrical companies.

INSURANCE

Table listing insurance companies.

E-K

Table listing companies (E-K).

L-R

Table listing companies (L-R).

S-N

Table listing companies (S-N).

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

Table listing newspaper and publishing companies.

OIL

Table listing oil companies.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping companies.

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table listing shoe and leather companies.

TEXTILES

Table listing textile companies.

TOBACCO

Table listing tobacco companies.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table listing overseas trading companies.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

Table listing paper, printing, and advertising companies.

LEISURE

Table listing leisure companies.

MINING

Table listing mining companies.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

Table listing motor and aircraft companies.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping companies.

SHOES AND LEATHER

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Portfolio Gold

Times Newspapers Limited DAILY DIVIDEND £8,000 Claims required for +50 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

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Portfolio Gold

Times Newspapers Limited DAILY DIVIDEND £8,000 Claims required for +50 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

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pend. and. tel. 0254-53272

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0254-53272

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing various unit trusts, their managers, and performance data. Columns include fund names, managers, and performance metrics.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table listing unlisted securities with columns for company names, prices, and other financial details.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing investment trusts, including names and performance indicators.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table listing financial trusts and their associated data.

COMMODITIES

Table listing commodity prices for various goods like oil, metals, and agricultural products.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, charge and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price.

Vertical advertisements on the right margin, including 'FOR DISC', '1160', and 'FOR DISC'.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Defence for small firms

This week's Ministry of Defence initiative to give small firms a better chance of defence contracts should be taken up by other key government departments...

Training pep

Training seminars for owner-managers of small businesses are being introduced from next April as a Private Enterprise Programme (PEP) by the Manpower Services Commission...



"I'm here to claim back the first part of the £57 million owed to small businesses in this country!"

Burton backs £1.7m design workshop

By Ian A. Jack A £1.7 million project for a purpose-built centre for design and marketing businesses in the north-east is in the advanced stage of planning.

Architect Neil Barker is at the site-testing stage for the Design Works at Gateshead. Planning permission is expected by the New Year...

Marketing studies have revealed at least 25 potential clients in the north of England and Project North East, which is managing both ventures, says interest has been shown by a number of small companies.

The aim is not only to provide a design base but to employ marketing experts to sell ideas. There will even be full-time ideas men.

Half the money needed to create the centre and run it for the first two years will come from the public sector. Burton is providing the factory and the services of Bob Walsley, one of their executives, to act as full-time project director.

Now the hunt is on for the rest of the funding from private sources. Project North East emphasizes that help in kind, such as equipment, is as desirable as cash.

The hope is to reverse the trend that sees many of North East's good designers - a lot of them products of the region's three polytechnics and numerous colleges of further education - drifting south or abroad.

Long term, Project North East believes the teams which will occupy units of between 300 and 1,000 sq ft will link up in joint projects marrying separate skills to produce a total design package for a project range.

Contact: Project North East, Mansfield Chambers, 45 Great Market, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1UG; (091-261 7856).

Making money out of toys is not child's play

By Teresa Poole The company was in a rut and by 1980 sales had levelled off after years of growth; its products were losing out to cheap imports from Taiwan.

This month, 30-year-old Mr Askaroff won the first Young Accountant of the Year award for his work in taking Simplantex through its second growth phase to a turnover in 1985 of £1.5 million and a 600 per cent increase in profits over five years.

The Eastbourne-based company, which has a workforce of 31, was started in 1956 by Mr Askaroff's parents and when he joined as finance director he set about restructuring the company to allow expansion.



Success slogan: "Turnover is vanity, profit is sanity," says Nikolai Askaroff shops and most of the chain stores, except Mothercare and Boots. Rather than compete on price with cheap imports, the company sells on quality.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

Ca'shhhh!

It's the confidential factor. Would you like to turn your invoices into cash without anyone knowing? Now you can. For just a phone call you could have an advance of 80% on invoice, with the balance when your customers pay...

Form for Confidential Invoice Discounting, including fields for Name, Title, Company, Address, Postcode, Telephone.

Wincanton Venture Contracts advertisement featuring a car and text about financing options.

FERGUSON & PARTNERS LTD advertisement, 'Someone you can talk to in the City', offering confidential and personal service.

HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF SOUTHERN WATER SLUDGE DISPOSAL TO SEA CONTRACT - SELECT LIST FOR TENDERS.

Plant Hire Division South Midlands advertisement, offering a range of services including building products, kitchen goods, and wholesale wines.

Matching Corporate Needs advertisement, offering a range of services including company acquisition, merger and disposal, and equity partners.

London World Trade Centre advertisement, offering office suite 270-8,600 sq. ft. available on flexible lease terms.

Northern Computers Ltd. advertisement, offering computer hardware and software, with a turnover of £250,000.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE advertisement, offering personalized calendars and diaries for Christmas delivery.

MICHELMORE HUGHES advertisement, offering licensed space for rent in a prominent central location.

THE LAMORNA COVE HOTEL advertisement, offering a retirement home in a scenic location with 200 acres of grounds.

TELEX SYSTEMS COMPLETE RANGE advertisement, offering a range of telex services and equipment.

FOR SALE/DISCOUNT advertisement, offering 180 to 365 day Bills of Exchange.

PRIME SPOT advertisement, offering a prime location for a shop or office in a central area.

ELECTRONICS advertisement, offering a reading based company seeking ideas to manufacture and market.

PRIVATE INVESTOR/PARTNER advertisement, offering a small building company seeking a private investor/partner.

ENVELOPES advertisement, offering a complete range of envelopes for various purposes.

BRITISH MANUFACTURERS advertisement, offering a range of products for sale.

OWNER RETIRED advertisement, offering a low rental high street kitchen studio with office and flat above.

COFFEE HOUSE/RESTAURANT advertisement, offering a coffee house/restaurant in a central location.

AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY advertisement, offering a business opportunity in a growing market.

WORD PROCESSING advertisement, offering a range of word processing services.

U.S. EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT & PARTS advertisement, offering a range of earthmoving equipment and parts.

RESIDENTIAL SITE advertisement, offering a residential site for development.

DIRECTOR FOR AD AGENCY advertisement, offering a director position for an advertising agency.

LAND FOR SALE advertisement, offering a suitable hotel or leisure centre near a beach.

PALL MALL + W2 advertisement, offering a low premium 24hr access parking.

NURSING HOME NORTH WALES advertisement, offering a nursing home for sale.

TIBBING SPECIALIST GIFT SHOP advertisement, offering a gift shop for sale.

WELL GET YOU started in a house back selling business advertisement, offering a house back selling business.

AN EXCITING BUSINESS advertisement, offering an exciting business opportunity.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY advertisement, offering a range of commercial property for sale.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 30 advertisement.

Motoring by Clifford Webb

GTA gives Renault a racier image

Renault's involvement in Formula One grand prix racing has not changed the average British motorist's view of their cars. They are still seen as run-of-the-mill family transport. The answer, of course, is that until recently the marque lacked an eye-catching, high performance road model like Porsche and Lotus to link the company's road and track images.

The pity is that with the exciting new Renault GTA V6 Turbo now making its appearance here, the French group has withdrawn from Formula One. The GTA attracts attention everywhere with its aggressively styled, low slung body, flared wheel arches and big fat tyres all promising power and speed.

It is in fact the fastest production Renault to date with a top speed of 155 mph and a 0 to 62 mph time of seven seconds. A drag coefficient of only 0.28 together with a very small frontal area enables Renault to claim the lowest air resistance of any production car in the world. Slickness through the air is a major factor in its remarkably frugal fuel consumption. I returned 28 mpg on a 280-mile motorway trip including entering and leaving congested central London.

The 2.5 litre V6 all-alloy engine is mounted in the rear of the laminated polyester body behind a five-speed transaxle. It is a developed version of the engine built at Douvrin and shared with a number of other car manufacturers.

In its earlier forms it was not particularly happy, tending to become thrappy and run out of breath when pushed hard. The GTA version had none of these shortcomings. It delivered its 200 bhp with surprising smoothness and flexibility for a turbo-charged engine.

The GTA is assembled by Renault's Alpine subsidiary at Dieppe and bears some resemblance to the 15-year-old Alpine A310 it replaces. That car was cramped and rather irritating to drive. The GTA still retains the semi-reclined driving position but has much more elbow room. The front seats give excellent all-round support and controls fall readily to hand.

A car of this type is essentially a high speed cruiser designed to burn-up motorway miles for hour after hour. It does that job well with two small reservations. At high speed, there is a slight vagueness about straight line steering and like all rear-engine cars, it is susceptible to side winds. An unusual windscreen wiper layout with the two blades almost clashing in the centre of the screen was apparently developed for maximum efficiency at high speed. Together with my passenger, I found it a constant distraction.

Spanish sales drive gains momentum. The fastest growing imported car business in Britain is SEAT, the Spanish group which is now 51 per cent owned by Volkswagen. SEAT began selling here just a year ago and already holds 3 per cent of the market with an estimated 6,200 sales this year. Douglas Clare, managing director of SEAT Concessionaires UK, plans to increase that to over 10,000 next year.

His model range has just been extended to include five-door versions of the Ibiza hatchback with a choice of 1.2 or 1.5 litre Porsche-designed engine. Prices start at £4,746 - the same price bracket as the Ford Fiesta. But SEAT is aiming higher - at the market-leading Ford Escort. Early Ibiza were plagued by carburation problems, but modifications seem to have solved the problem. I drove both versions of the new five-door model for nearly 300 miles this week and found them considerably improved.



Renault GTA V6 Turbo: attracts attention everywhere

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Hispano-Saiza Tourer: expected to fetch £150,000

high-pitched super-charged whine of Ettore Bugatti's creations is the nostalgic music of my own childhood.

Original Grand Prix Bugattis rarely come on the open market and when they do, are extremely expensive, carefully documented and beautifully restored. These two, in fact, belonged to late Charles Moore, a well known Bugatti enthusiast and restorer, but they are by no means in pristine condition. Setheby's say their experts had to hack away trees and undergrowth to get into the

garage where they had been stored for several years. I've had the same dream for more years than I care to recall. One is offered complete but in need of some restoration work. It is said to be worth about £30,000. The other is only partly assembled and sold with a number of parts which appear to include most of the missing components. The joy of acquiring a neglected thing of beauty is the long months, even years, of immensely satisfying restoration work ahead. But it could cost you £50,000 just to start.

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CAR BUYERS' GUIDE

Advertisement for DP Automobiles, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Mr Ernest Bolingbroke, Used Car Manager. Phone: 01 681 2600. Address: 463-472 Purley Way, Croydon (A23).

Advertisement for S.L. Garages, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault Performance Centre in Wales. Phone: 0222 383122.

Advertisement for D.P. Lead & Sons, featuring a Ferrari logo and contact information for Ferrari 308. Phone: 0902 710805.

Advertisement for Martin Smith, featuring a Ferrari logo and contact information for Aston Martin Specialists. Phone: 01 733 1062.

Advertisement for R.S. Williams, featuring a Ferrari logo and contact information for Aston Martin Specialists. Phone: 01 733 1062.

Advertisement for Exhams Motors Ltd, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0203 728 5666.

Advertisement for Renault in Cardiff, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0222 383122.

Advertisement for The New Renault 21 TL, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Next Car Centre. Phone: 0279 755127.

Advertisement for Wilsons Automobiles and Coachworks Limited, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 037 27 2631.

Advertisement for Wheelers (Newbury) Limited, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0635 41020.

Advertisement for Star Hill Motors, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0203 728 5666.

Advertisement for Trema LX Turbo, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0708 42242.

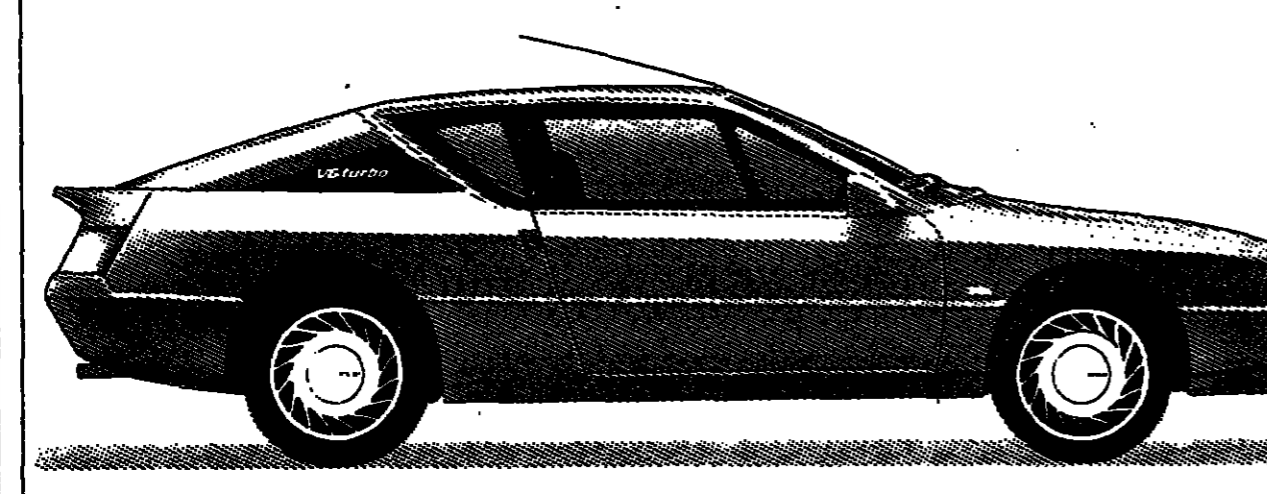
Advertisement for Rees Bros, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0203 728 5666.

Advertisement for Silver Shadow, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Silver Shadow 1976. Phone: 01 908 1847.

Advertisement for Rolls Royce 1972, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Silver Shadow. Phone: 01 908 1847.

Advertisement for Silver Shadow 1976, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Silver Shadow. Phone: 01 908 1847.

RENAULT PERFORMANCE CENTRE



TEST DRIVE THE NEW RENAULT GTA AT THESE RENAULT PERFORMANCE CENTRES.

- List of Renault Performance Centres across various regions including Bristol, Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Dorset, Essex, Greater Manchester, Hampshire, Kent, London W3, London W9, Kent, London W3, London W9, Kent, London W3, London W9.

- List of Renault Performance Centres across various regions including Middlesex, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Tyne & Wear, West Midlands, West Yorkshire, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands.

THE RENAULT GTA V6 TURBO. 155 mph. £23,635. THE RENAULT GTA V6. 146 mph. £19,040.

Advertisement for Whitehill Motors, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 04203 2073/4.

Advertisement for Stoke Poges Motor Co., featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 02941 2365.

Advertisement for Opel Senator, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Opel Senator. Phone: 0473 43821/2/3.

Advertisement for Best Buys, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 01 950 6052.

Advertisement for Renault 5, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 01 950 6052.

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Advertisement for Renault 5, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 01 950 6052.

Advertisement for SS Restorations, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0203 728 5666.

Advertisement for Wood Trim, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0203 728 5666.

Advertisement for 1954 MGTF, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 0404 822324.

Advertisement for 1963 Mercedes 300SE, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 01 776 1830.

Advertisement for Renault 5, featuring a Renault logo and contact information for Renault 5. Phone: 01 950 6052.



BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

ALD GATE
900 yards from City
Large or Small Offices
Whether you require 1 room with superb views, use of reception, boardroom and all secretarial and other facilities, or a large unfurnished suite with big dealing rooms, etc.

VERY IMPORTANT
ITALIAN MANUFACTURER
OF SOLENOID VALVES IS
LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED
PARTNER ACTING BOTH
AS EXCLUSIVE
DISTRIBUTOR AND SOLE
AGENT IN ENGLAND.

El Paraiso
LA RAPIA, MALLORCA
We are looking for active partners for the sale of remarkable Bungalows and Villas at interesting prices on the sunny island Mallorca.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1986-87

SPECIALISTS IN MAKING ACQUISITIONS
If you have not found the business you are seeking in these columns let us find it for you.

GEORGIAN OFFICES ON CITY FRINGES
ELEGANT 5-FLOORED GRADE II LISTED GEORGIAN PROPERTY ADJACENT TO ANGEL.

WYE VALLEY
A splendid country house hotel set in a unique trading position near a major tourist town.

STOCK MORRIS & ASSOCIATES
Specialists in Making Acquisitions
If you have not found the business you are seeking in these columns let us find it for you.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1986-87

COMPUTERS & COMPUTING SERVICES

OFFICE EQUIPMENT & FURNISHERS

APPLE PUBLISHERS system - 6 units with 300k drive etc.

JUST DESKS
The Limited quantities available now. Please phone Fax International.

TRAINING AGENTS for computer software

COMPANY NOTICES

CHRISTMAS COMPUTER WANG SALE
WANG WRITERS from £295
WANG PCs 50% off list

FAX UPDATE
Portable fax machines. Cheapest prices in Europe.

SECOND HAND
WANG WRITERS from £295
WANG PCs 50% off list

LOANS & INVESTMENT

SHEER LOGIC
For your company to have its own personalised calendars & diaries.

PARTNER REQUIRED
BUILDING/OFFICES/VENTURE

AGGRESSIVE SALES AGENTS
Should get Mr House on 0257 73722 right away.

LEGAL NOTICES
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

GREEN ARROW
INTECH CENTRAL LIMITED
MELANIN INDUSTRIAL GROUP
MELANIN LTD

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1986-87

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
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SESSION 1986-87

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BRITISH WATERWAYS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has decided to order that the British Waterways Board should be transferred to the Secretary of State for Transport.

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NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek professional advice before entering into any form of agreement, or parting with any money.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 27

MONDAY
Educations: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments.

WEDNESDAY
La Créme de la Créme and other secretarial appointments.

FRIDAY
Mystery: A complete car buyer's guide with editorial.

THE BOX NUMBER DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 484 VIRGINIA STREET WAPPING LONDON E1 9DD

Objec

MOTOR RACING: MORE CLAIMANTS THAN COCKPITS AS DUMFRIES GOES LOOKING FOR A CONTRACT

No Lotus-eating for the earl as he joins the hot-seat job queue

More than three months have passed since Johnny Dumfries was told there would be no place for him in the JPS Lotus team in 1987 and it may well be a further month or two before he knows whether or not he has a Formula One drive next season.

Cruising through pit-lane memories

Sports writers of The Times present their selection from the sporting books of the year. Today: John Blunsden on the best of the motor-sport books.

Chairman's unmagnificent seven

John Preen, the newly elected chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, said that he planned to dismiss the selection committee. After watching England thrash Italy 6-1 in a European League match at Tonbridge, Preen, the father of Carl Preen, said: "Why do we need seven people to choose a team? I think Don Parker, the England captain, is now experienced enough to be able to choose the team without the help of six other people."



Something special: The Earl of Dumfries in his seat of power

ICE SKATING Title winners give cause for hope

The British championships at Solihull this week encouraged the hope that Britain will produce a stronger team for the European and world championships after in the season than one might have feared. The winners of the three titles all emerged with reputations enhanced and with genuine prospects of further advancement.

Joanne Conway, whose mature ice presence belies her 15 years, seems to have thrown off the loss of confidence that undermined her performance at the St Ivel competition in September. Paul Robinson, who has clearly put behind him the depressing record of four titles finishing second, is benefiting from the facilities now open to him under Kerry Leitch, a distinguished teacher in Canada.

Desmond Douglas led England to a convincing victory over Italy in the 21-year-old Birmingham left-handed singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles matches as England swept into an unassailable 4-1 lead and maintained their strong challenge for promotion to the premier division.

WEMBLEY WHERE ELSE

A giant-killer who plans to take stadium by storm

Wembley Stadium, having rested elegantly on her laurels for 65 years, has joined the high-tech commercial world of type and hard sell to support a £10 million improvement scheme. The famed twin towers are being harnessed to spearhead an unprecedented business expansion scheme which will be unveiled in January.

HA to receive £420,000 in sponsorship

The Hockey Association, boosted by England's World Cup success, received another £420,000 in the form of a major sponsorship deal.

Wiltshire test for Avon

With four women's territorial county champions decided - Berkshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire and Suffolk - it remains for the West to complete their championships this weekend.

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SWIMMING

First cap follows Fibbens's trial win

Mike Fibbens, of Beckenham, who provided a big surprise by breaking the British short-course record for 100 metres butterfly at last weekend's Leicester trials, will win his first full international colour for Britain in the European Cup tournament at Malmö, Sweden on December 13 and 14.

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mechanical engine the 22,000 hp Portofino Gold yesterday to good to my grammy all appeal and next year," Mr of Allestree,

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Law Report November 28 1986 House of Lords

Objectively justified material difference defeats equal pay claim

Rainey v Greater Glasgow Health Board. Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Griffiths, Lord MacKay of Clashfern and Lord Goff of Chieveley. [Speeches November 27].

Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Forth, QC for Mrs Rainey. Mr W. A. Ninnion-Smith, QC and Mrs Ann Paton (both of the Scottish Bar) for the Board.

It was significant that a large part of the difference that had opened up between Mrs Rainey's salary and Mr Crumlin's was due to the different negotiating machinery.

Employed prosthetists into forming the nucleus of the new service. Accordingly, the grounds founded on by the board as constituting the material difference between Mrs Rainey's case and Mr Crumlin's were capable in law of constituting a relevant difference for purposes of section 1(3) of the 1970 Act.

صحنه من الاجل

England plan to give Australia more of same in second Test

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Perth

After yesterday morning's practice England announced that they would be playing the same team in the second Test match starting here today as won them the first Test in Brisbane. "Leave well alone" was the thinking, and with Embury back in action only the wicket-keeping place...

As bawling broke out round the ground, Greg Chappell took his side off until order was restored, a quarter of an hour's play being lost. It was 15 minutes before a batsman played another Test match, and it is questionable whether he has ever been quite as good a bowler since.

On England's previous tour, in 1979-80, Lillee hijacked the Perth Test match, storming around and arguing that he should be allowed to use an aluminium bat, despite objections from the umpires and both captains, Greg Chappell and Embury. By the leniency with which they treated the incident, the Australian...

he, too, said he got into more of a state than in his playing days. But if Brisbane was anything to go by, temperate behaviour should not be a problem in the present series.

The Australian Cricket Board had already banned Hughes and his team from representing Australia until October 1988 and their states until October 1987. Believing the club ban to be "indefinite", which the WACA says was a false assumption, Hughes claimed that if he could never have played club cricket again it would still take a great deal of time to consider for Test and state cricket.

With Azumah Nelson, of Ghana, pulling out of the Alexandra Pavilion show on December 3 because of suspected appendicitis, Errol Christie, the Coventry middleweight, has been called to lead weight to the evening. Christie's opponent will be Charlie Boston, of Trenton, New Jersey.

Christie fresh from his exciting victory over Sean Mannion, the world rated light-middleweight, from Boston is ready to meet anyone. Boston should be a good test for him for not long ago he knocked out Dwight Davidson, once a world ranked middleweight. Also on the bill, Sydney Mele, of Bradford, Green, seeks Kirkland Laing, of Nottingham, for the British welterweight title vacated by Lloyd Honeyghan, the world champion.

When he announced his comeback campaign, the Hungarian boxer Bognar said he believed he was still better than any of the world's heavyweights. And after watching Mickey Tyson, 20, demolish Trevor Berbick last weekend, Bognar maintained he had seen nothing to change his mind.

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The laughing cavalier

Bugner's challenge to Bruno

Reeson to continue despite tragedy

Boxing

Workington ground closed

Workington, who were just beginning to overcome the severe financial problems which have plagued them since they were voted out of the Football League nine years ago, have been forced to close their ground for safety reasons. County council officials decided at an inspection of Borough Park that the floodlight pylons erected in 1957, may not be safe in high winds.

Christ's whistle home in the gale

Among a spate of early school county matches Ulster 18 County beat Northumberland 24-0 under the Percy Park floodlights and Leinster lost 7-3 to Yorkshire at the Bradford and Bingley club. Lancashire open their winter campaign with a game against Warwickshire at Blundell's on Sunday while Cheshire entertain Staffordshire at Daventry.

Solly to run in Hiroshima

Jon Solly, the Commonwealth Games 100 metres champion, is in Britain's five-strong men's team which will take on the inaugural IAAF world challenge road relay in Hiroshima on Sunday. Solly will run the 7km leg after Carl Traversky, who will start the relay.

Becker bows to Gilbert

Atlanta (AFP) - The Wimbledon champion, Boris Becker, of West Germany, has been beaten in three sets by Brad Gilbert, of the United States, in a \$266,000 exhibition tournament on Wednesday.

Marathon runner in drugs ban

New York (Reuters) - Antoni Niemczak, of Poland, who finished second in the New York marathon earlier this month, was disqualified yesterday after failing a drugs test.

Course record falls to in-form Marsh

Ibusuki - Graham Marsh, of Great Britain, broke a course record of 64, eight under par, yesterday to take a three-stroke lead after the opening round of the \$31,250 (about \$371,000) Casio world open tournament. Marsh rolled in a 13th birdie putt on the first hole and followed it with eight more on the 6,585-yard par-72 Ibusuki course in southern Japan.

Modern Pentathlon

Two members of Britain's gold medal-winning team at the Montreal Olympic Games expressed the opinion yesterday that the recent crackdown on drugs in the sport, which has led to the suspension of 15 competitors, including the world champion, though welcome, was not severe enough.

Squash Rackets

Such is the charisma of the former world champion and such the curiosity of informed squash watchers about his lasting exploits, the entire 1,000-strong audience stayed firmly in their seats at Temple Meads to applaud his late-night 9-7, 9-1, 9-6 victory.

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Modern Pentathlon

Squash Rackets

vertical text on the right edge of the page, including names and fragments of text.



Beauty and the beast: Kinvara Cayzer and her Land Rover, in which she aims to cross the Sahara Desert

MOTOR RALLYING

Kinvara's quest for adventure in desert

By a Correspondent On New Year's Day, Kinvara Cayzer is going to get into a car and head off into the sun. It will not be an ordinary car but the trip, from the heart of Paris to Dakar, on the coast of Senegal in West Africa, is no ordinary trip.

Vintage performance keeps crowd riveted to their seats

A couple of good shot encounters or a long, grueling battle will usually satisfy even the most ardent cricket fan at a single sitting. At the Inter-City national championships in Bristol this week things were happening so fast in the main men's event and so efficiently...

Drug tests do not go far enough

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Taking a charitable view of our pets

If you happen to tune in to this week's edition of Just Another Day...

CHOICE with some smart comment such as "Why do you think I should know that?"...

Patting back the Sparkle (Channel 4, 10.30pm) is trying to tell us...

9.30pm) which completes Arena's trilogy of Spanish artists...



Another patient for the Blue Cross Hospital for Sick Animals: BBC2, 9.00pm

Peter Davalle

BBC1 and BBC2 program listings for Friday, Nov 28, 1986. Includes shows like The Firm, The Two of Us, and News at 10.

ITV-LONDON and CHANNEL 4 program listings. Includes Good Morning Britain, The London Programme, and The Two of Us.

VARIATIONS program listings from various regions including Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

Additional program listings and a 'World of Animation' section.

Lorca (left), photographed in 1935 with newspaper editor Constantino Ruiz Carreras...

Some of the EastEnders cast with the MC, Les Dawson...

ALPINE 21st ANNIVERSARY advertisement. Features a 25% discount on double glazing, 'Happy Birthday from us', and contact information for the company.

Radio 1, Radio 2, and Radio 3 program listings for Friday, Nov 28, 1986. Includes various music, news, and entertainment shows.

Radio 4 program listings for Friday, Nov 28, 1986. Includes 'The Archers', 'The Wednesday Play', and 'The World Tonight'.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 900kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m...

